



Famous Lebanese poet dies

BEIRUT (AP) — U.S.-educated poet and philosopher Mikhail Naimy, considered one of Lebanon's major literary figures, died after a short battle with cancer, relatives said Monday. He was 98. Naimy, who lived in the United States and served with the American army in World War I, died at his home in the Zalka district at 9:22 p.m. (1922 GMT) Sunday, they said. The slim, bespectacled Naimy, biographer and long-time associate of famous Lebanese writer Khalil Gibran, was born Oct. 17, 1889, in Bsharri, a mountain village 15 kilometres northeast of Beirut. He was educated at a Russian missionary school in Jerusalem and then at high school in Moscow. Naimy went to the United States in 1911 and got a law degree from Washington State University in Seattle. He was drafted May 25, 1918, and sent to the front in France. Naimy's career as a writer began after his 1919 return to Waila Waila, Washington State, to live with his two elder brothers. He returned to live in Lebanon in 1932, a few months after Gibran's death. Naimy was fluent in English, Russian and Arabic.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
 جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

UNRWA: Uprising likely to continue

VIENNA (R) — The Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip is likely to continue for some time, a senior United Nations official in charge of aiding Palestinian refugees said Monday. Giorgio Giacomelli, commissioner-general of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), said only the immediate problems of Palestinian refugees could be tackled without a political initiative to solve the Middle East conflict. "What has happened has been a spontaneous movement that has gradually developed into a general insurgency," Giacomelli told a meeting of UNRWA's main backers. "This is a situation which we perceive will probably last for some time." Giacomelli said the uprising might die down temporarily but would then flare up again. "The events did not come to us as a surprise or indeed to anyone else who was closely involved in the area," Giacomelli told representatives of 23 governments and the European Community which finance the Vienna-based UNRWA.

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Danes shun Israeli products

COPENHAGEN (AP) — Denmark's biggest grocery chain has decided to stop importing fruit and vegetables from Israel because of violence in the occupied territories, a spokeswoman for the company said Monday. "We've had problems with deliveries ever since the troubles down there began, and sales of Israeli goods in our stores have dropped 30 per cent," said Lis Norup, information chief for Irma Groceries. "Danes simply don't want to buy Israeli goods under present circumstances," Norup told the AP.

2 killed in old missile blast in Kuwait

KUWAIT (R) — Two people were killed and three wounded when an old missile exploded in a scrapyard outside Kuwait city Monday, the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) reported. It quoted an interior ministry official as saying the incident took place in the Jahra region 25 kilometres northwest of the capital. There was no immediate explanation as to how the missile came to be in the scrapyard. The identity of the victims was not disclosed.

Bokassa's death sentence commuted

BANGUI (AP) — President Andre Kolingba commuted former emperor Jean-Bedel Bokassa's death sentence to life imprisonment in solitary confinement, the national radio reported Monday. The former, self-proclaimed "Emperor Bokassa I" had lost his appeal to the supreme court last November. Bokassa, 67, had been convicted June 12, 1982, of ordering the murder of at least 20 political opponents. He also was convicted of diverting huge sums from the state treasury. Bokassa was living in exile in France when he slipped away and flew back to Bangui to vindicate himself "before the Central African people." Bokassa had been convicted in absentia and sentenced to death in 1980.

Arap Moi reelected

NAIROBI (AP) — President Daniel Arap Moi was elected to a third term Monday when he filed unopposed as a member of parliament for Baringo central constituency. The filing was just a formality since the 63-year-old Arap Moi was the sole presidential candidate nominated Saturday by the ruling Kenya African National Union (KANU). Arap Moi also is president of KANU, by law the country's only political party.

Reagan not to order maximum punitive action against Panama

NEW YORK (AP) — The United States will not impose maximum penalties against Panama for failing to take steps to control drug trafficking, a newspaper reported Monday. Under a 1986 anti-drug law, the president has until Tuesday to certify whether countries in which major drug trafficking occurs are fully cooperating in efforts to fight the trafficking. The New York Times, quoting senior U.S. government officials, said President Ronald Reagan last weekend signed an order to decertify Panama, but that he declined to use his discretionary powers to impose the maximum penalties (See related story on page 8).

Shultz holds second round of talks in Amman Jordan reiterates call for peace conference

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz left Amman Monday after holding a second round of talks with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, during which Jordan

reiterated its commitment to convening an international peace conference on the basis of United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz Monday

The two sides resumed talks over the situation in the region and on means to achieve a comprehensive peaceful settlement for the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said. The second round of Jordanian-American consultations followed discussions between Shultz and leaders of Syria, Israel and Egypt over new American ideas to settle the Palestinian problem.

Shultz, who left for Israel after his five-hour talks in Jordan, was expected to leave for London Tuesday.

Shultz is expected to meet with His Majesty King Hussein in London later this week to continue consultations over efforts to revitalise the Middle East peace process.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai left for London Monday to join the King in his talks with Shultz and with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

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Iran lobbs missiles into Baghdad; Iraq bombs Tehran in revenge

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — The Iraqi air force, retaliating for two pre-dawn missile attacks on Baghdad, Monday bombed the heart of Tehran, hitting a hospital and other targets.

The Iranian Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said 16 people were killed at the hospital and "dozens wounded."

The raid was carried out 12 hours after the missiles hit the Iraqi capital. Baghdad Radio said the pre-dawn missile explosions killed or wounded "many civilians," but gave no exact figure.

Iraq warned that Iran "will pay a high price," and soon thereafter Tehran Radio interrupted programming to report that the Iraqi warplanes twice bombed the Iranian capital.

The radio urged panic-stricken Iraqis to take refuge in recently built bomb shelters. It was the second time the Iraqis have bombed Tehran in three days.

A government statement read on Tehran Radio ordered all government ministries, schools and

public institutions to have their air raid shelters and basements ready for use around the clock.

The Turkish Anatolian news agency reported that one bomb exploded 300 metres from a downtown hotel where Turkish Minister Yusuf Ozal is staying with an official delegation led by Prime Minister Turgut Ozal (See page 2).

Seventeen Iranian missiles hit Baghdad last year, Iraq did not give precise casualty figures for all the attacks, but a missile which wrecked a primary school on Oct. 13 killed 36 children and wounded 218.

Iraq and Iran have both reported civilian casualties in attacks on their towns or cities over the past three days and they have both said they will retaliate.

While Iran said its forces fired three missiles into Baghdad Monday, Iraq reported only two hit residential districts of the capital.

Ramadan assails China

SANAA (R) — A senior Iraqi official accused China Monday of selling arms to Iran and called the sales immoral.

Taha Yassin Ramadan, Iraq's first deputy prime minister, was asked about alleged Chinese arms sales to Iran at a news conference during a visit to North Yemen.

"China's role is irresponsible and I can describe it as an immoral one," he said.

Peking has repeatedly denied U.S. allegations that it has supplied Silkwood missiles and other weapons to Iran that if the U.N. Security Council imposed an arms embargo against Iran, and China refused to heed it, "there must be a stand against China, political and economic... a real position by the world and the Arab World."

Ramadan later arrived in Abu Dhabi with a message from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein for United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayan.

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PFLP-GC claims seaborne attack attempt on Israel

SIDON, Lebanon (Agencies) — A Syrian-based Palestinian group said Monday it was responsible for an attempted seaborne attack on Israel which the Israeli navy foiled.

"The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) announces its responsibility for the seaborne attack Saturday," said a statement issued in the southern Lebanese port of Sidon.

The group said the raid was planned to support the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. Lebanese police said two Palestinian commandos were killed and three swam to safety when Israeli gunboats sank their dinghy off the Lebanese coast Saturday night.

Palestinian sources had said the commandos were members of the mainstream Fateh group of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The PFLP-GC, which has its headquarters in Damascus, was behind a hang-glider attack on an

Israeli army base in November which killed six soldiers.

According to the Israeli army, an Israeli patrol spotted the vessel by radar at 9:30 p.m. (1930 GMT) Saturday as it headed in the direction of Israel from the Lebanese port of Tyre.

An Israeli spokesman said the two killed commandos were armed with light weapons but "the speed with which the (boat) sank showed it was heavily loaded, probably with explosives. It was clear they intended (to carry out) an attack in Israel. They were dressed in battle gear."

Fateh sources in Sidon, claiming responsibility for Saturday's operation, said Sunday the squad had planned to attack the northern Israeli coastal town of Nabariya to avenge the killing of three PLO officers in Cyprus two weeks ago.

The PLO had blamed the Feb. 14 car bombing in Limassol, Cyprus, on Israel's secret service, Mossad.

PLO: Israeli soldiers burned 14 Arabs alive Two more Palestinians fall martyr

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Two more Palestinians died from gunshot wounds in the Israeli-occupied territories Monday while the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) accused Israeli soldiers of burning alive 14 Arabs in a village in the occupied West Bank.

Jewish settlers stepped up their anti-Palestinian offensive, distributing angry leaflets in Arab villages and calling on Israel to get "tougher" in the occupied territories and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said he would consider barring journalists from entering the areas.

Troops shot dead an 18-year-old Palestinian during a violent demonstration at the West Bank village of Burin near Nablus and a second Arab, aged 30, died in hospital from gunshot wounds suffered last week, an army spokesman said.

Their deaths raised to 79 the unofficial toll in the 11-week old Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Jewish settlers distributed 3,000 leaflets in Palestinian towns warning that Israel would crack down against Arab protesters.

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An elderly Palestinian woman from Beit Sahour, near Bethlehem, is about to throw a stone at Israeli soldiers during protests, while behind her a Palestinian boy readies his slingshot.

U.N. begins debate on U.S. move

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, opening an emergency session of the General Assembly Monday, urged the United States not to close the U.N. mission of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and to respect the United Nations.

"This question has immediate and profound importance for the United Nations," he said as the 159-member assembly reconvened a three-day session to condemn the U.S. plan to close the PLO mission under a new "anti-terrorist" law.

"The PLO is an invitee of the United Nations and the United States is obliged by its U.N. headquarters agreement to permit accredited PLO personnel to enter and remain in the U.S. and carry out their official functions," the U.N. chief said.

Perez de Cuellar said he hoped the United States could reconcile its domestic legislation with its international obligations.

Both the State Department and the United Nations say the new law that would close the mission by March 22 violates the 1947 headquarters agreement between the United States and the United Nations. It allows all missions to operation.

Still, the Justice Department reportedly intends to go ahead and order the mission closed, although legal manoeuvring is expected to keep the mission open for as long as a year.

Twenty-two speakers, including the PLO ambassador and the envoys of the Soviet Union, Jordan, Egypt and Syria, were to address the assembly Monday.

Mellor: Mideast status quo is intolerable, peace should come through U.N. conference

By Sa'd G. Hattar Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A British minister stressed Monday that the status quo in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza was no longer an option and said an international Middle East peace conference was the most appropriate mechanism to bring the concerned parties to the negotiating table.

David Mellor, junior minister at the British Foreign Office said: "A fundamental change has to come about. That fundamental change should be based on an exchange of territory for peace."

Speaking to reporters at a press conference following talks with senior Jordanian officials, Mellor praised the recent American "reengagement" in efforts to arrive at a negotiated settlement to the Palestinian problem as "a

serious initiative."

"We very much welcome the American reengagement in the Middle East and we wish (U.S. Secretary of State George) Shultz

well in his endeavour," said Mellor in reference to the U.S. secretary's shuttle diplomacy in

(Continued on page 5)



Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Monday confers with British Foreign Office Minister David Mellor

Berri calls on Hizbollah to reject kidnap orders

BEIRUT (R) — Nabih Berri, leader of the Shi'ite Amal militia, urged pro-Iranian militants Monday to disobey orders to kidnap foreigners in Lebanon.

Berri also said U.S. marine officer William Higgins, seized in southern Lebanon Feb. 17 while serving with the U.N. Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO), was kidnapped for money.

"Don't obey your leaders to fight your fellow Shi'ites but at the same time don't ever obey your leaders to kidnap innocent people," Berri urged members of the Iranian-backed Hizbollah (Party of God).

Berri's Amal militia arrested several Hizbollah members during a hunt for Higgins, head of the Lebanon unit of UNTSO.

The search brought into the open an old feud with Hizbollah for control of the south and

threatened an armed confrontation within the Shi'ite community, the biggest sect in Lebanon.

Higgins, 43, was seized near Tyre, an Amal stronghold. A group calling itself "Organisation of the Oppressed of the World" claimed responsibility and said he was a spy.

Berri told a news conference: "The issue is not that of a spy but of money." He did not elaborate.

Hizbollah is believed to be behind the abduction of some of the 28 foreigners missing and believed kidnapped in Lebanon. It has repeatedly denied any links with kidnappers.

Hizbollah officials, clerics and the Iranian embassy have strongly condemned Amal searches of Hizbollah hideouts.

Berri urged Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini to send an envoy to

Lebanon to check Hizbollah allegations of mass arrests and attacks by Amal on clerics.

"We want the same security rules imposed in Tehran and Iran to be imposed in the south. Do Americans get kidnapped in Iran? Is anyone attacked for no reason in Iran?" Berri asked.

Higgins was the third U.N. official seized this month. Gunmen kidnapped Swede Jan Stenning and Norwegian William Joergensen of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency near Sidon on Feb. 5.

Swedish Ambassador Ingmar Stjernberg and Norway's Charge d'Affaires in Damascus Peter Raeder held talks in Sidon Monday with Mustapha Saad, leader of the Popular Liberation Army. The group, which controls the city, is mediating in efforts to free the pair.

Violence rocks Bangladesh as polls near

DHAKA (Agencies) — Several bombs were thrown, 16 vehicles burned or damaged and three people were injured Monday as anti-government violence continued to protest the parliamentary elections scheduled for Thursday, witnesses and police said.

Three people, including a policeman, were injured in two bomb blasts blamed on demonstrators who gathered to protest the killing of three people by police bullets Sunday, witnesses quoted by the AP said.

A senior police official posted near the rally site, said "people threw three bombs at a jeep carrying paramilitary troops. One

bomb exploded inside, injuring a policeman." Four cars were set ablaze by the protesters in different parts of the city, police reports said.

The main opposition parties in Bangladesh are opposed to the national elections scheduled for March 3. The opposition is boycotting the elections, saying a free and fair poll is not possible under the present government of Hussain Mohammad Ershad.

A rally was organised by the opposition Monday to condemn the killings where leaders reiterated their demand for President Ershad's resignation.

Obaidur Rahman, general secretary of the Bangladesh

Nationalist Party, asked the people to form "resistance committees" at the village level to disrupt "this farcical election called to perpetuate the rule of Ershad."

More than 200 riot police guarded the venue of the rally but violence was reported from different parts of the city. In downtown Hazrat Bagh, protesters torched three jute and bamboo election posts and damaged seven vehicles, witnesses told the AP.

They exploded several crude bombs before police dispersed them, the witnesses said.

Five vehicles were attacked and damaged near the Dhaka University, a centre of anti-gov-

ernment protests.

The army began deploying at polling stations Monday to prevent violence by anti-government protesters opposed to the elections.

Information Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud said 9,000 soldiers would be deployed to help 300,000 home guards at the country's 27,000 polling stations.

The opposition parties have announced a 36-hour general strike.

They have demanded that Ershad, who seized power in a bloodless coup in 1982, stand down and hand over to a neutral caretaker government that would hold free and fair elections.

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Ozal urges honourable end to Gulf war

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal told Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi Monday that he hoped for an honourable end to the Iran-Iraq war, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported.

IRNA said the prime ministers had a two-hour meeting, their second since Ozal arrived in Tehran with a 35-member delegation Sunday for a three-day visit.

The agency said Ozal told Mousavi that Turkey, which has good relations with both Baghdad and Tehran, respects Iran's view on the Gulf war.

IRNA quoted Ozal as saying earlier that Turkey supported a political solution to the conflict, but his talks in Iran could not be regarded as mediation. Ozal is due to visit Iraq in April.

Ozal also pledged support for efforts by Iran and Pakistan to solve the Afghanistan problem, IRNA said Monday.

It said the two sides discussed economic issues, including construction of oil and gas pipelines, and exchanged views on border cooperation and political and security affairs.

Ankara wants Tehran to curb the activities of Iranian-based rebels seeking autonomy for Turkey's estimated eight million Kurds. Iran in return wants Turkey to clamp down on Iranian opposition groups active there.

Relations between Ankara and Iran are not always smooth. The Turks have arrested several groups of Iranian Revolutionary Guards seeking to infiltrate into northern Iraq.

Last June, Mousavi was criticised for refusing to pay homage to the grave of Kamal Ataturk, founder of modern Turkey, when he was in Ankara.

Iran-Turkey pipeline

Turkey gets most of its oil from Iran and Iraq and has declared that attacks by Iran or its Kurdish guerrilla allies, who also are fighting Turkey, on northern Iraqi oil facilities and export routes would be considered tantamount to an act of war.

Turkey earns around \$250 million a year in transit fees from two pipelines from Iraq that carry 1.5 million barrels of oil a day to Mediterranean terminals.

A proposed 1,400-kilometre pipeline from Iran's southern oilfields to Turkey's Iskenderun Bay on the Mediterranean is seen partly as an effort by Tehran to mollify the Turks.

The pipeline would also allow Iran to pump its vital oil exports, needed to pay for its war effort, overland rather than ship it through the Gulf where its tankers are under constant attack from Iraqi fighter-bombers.

Ozal was expected to discuss financing of the \$3.5 billion pipeline while he is in Tehran as well as ways to step up political and economic cooperation.

N. Yemen foresees Israeli attack to divert attention from uprising

KUWAIT (Agencies) — North Yemen's president says Israel might take military action against his country, where thousands of Palestinian fighters are based, to divert attention from the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, the Al Seyassah daily said Monday.

"The entire Arab World is not immune against Zionist aggression," the newspaper quoted Ali Abdullah Saleh as saying in an interview.

"The Palestinians currently in Yemen are in their second homeland," he added, when asked if he expected Israel to attack Yemen to divert world attention from the Palestinian uprising.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) moved thousands of its fighters to North and South Yemen, as well as other Arab countries, after they were forced out of Beirut in Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon.

Saleh and the PLO have made similar predictions before, particularly after Israeli warplanes flew 2,400 kilometres to bomb PLO headquarters in Tunis in October 1985, killing 73 people.

Sanaa-Aden ties

North Yemen also hosts Ali Nasser Mohammed, former leader of neighbouring South Yemen, and thousands of his supporters. Nasser Mohammed was deposed after bloody fighting in Aden in January 1986 between

Oil and economy

Saleh denied reports that neighbouring oil-rich countries had halted economic aid to North Yemen following the discovery of oil in commercial quantities.

He stressed that the governments in Sanaa and Aden would not be deterred from pursuing a pledge to work for unity between the two neighbours.

He said the decision to investigate Israeli actions was taken after a two-day meeting in Nicosia at the weekend of the 10-member secretariat of the commission, a non-government grouping of jurists, academics and other prominent figures.

Platts-Mills said the secretariat concluded after hearing evidence from several witnesses that "the Israeli military forces and government are continuing on a course of deliberate and sustained conduct against the civilian population (of the occupied territories) in flagrant breach of international law."

By United Nations count, 74 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank and Gaza since the protests began Dec. 8.

The airliner's two flight recorders have been taken to Istanbul for analysis by Turkish and Yugoslav experts.

Civil aviation officials earlier heard recordings of radio contacts between the pilot and air traffic control at Ercan airport in the breakaway Turkish republic of north Cyprus.

A DC-10 chartered by Talya, the Istanbul-based firm which had leased the Boeing, took the Finnish tourists to Helsinki Sunday and returned to Ercan with another group.

The Boeing's recorders and altimeter were found among the wreckage near on the 1,000-metre Kyrenia mountain range.

Ercan is a small British-built World War II military airfield that has served as a civilian airport.

The Kyrenia range, some 23 kilometres northwest of Ercan, was shrouded in fog at the time. Contact was lost with the plane after the Ercan control tower asked the pilot to confirm sighting the runway.

The daily Hurriyet, Turkey's largest newspaper, quoted an unidentified Yugoslav official as saying Talya had not provided maintenance because of financial difficulties.

The paper quoted Talya officials as denying the claim and saying they would not have allowed the aircraft to fly if it had not undergone proper maintenance.

They are charged with treason and threatening state security but no further details were given.

Landmines cripple 2 UNIFIL officers

BEIRUT (R) — Two Norwegian peacekeeping soldiers lost a leg when they walked into a minefield in South Lebanon, U.N. spokesman Jorgen Goksel said Monday.

He said the soldiers, part of an eight-man patrol, were sent out Sunday to the village of Biat, north of Marjayoun in Israel's self-declared "security zone."

They were checking on the impacts of two Katyusha rockets, a favourite weapon for attacks on Israel by resistance fighters, which had landed there.

Private Ole Sporre lost his left leg and private Sig Bakken his right, Goksel said.

Biat is on the edge of a part of the zone patrolled by the Norwegian battalion of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

Sporre was being evacuated on a stretcher by members of the patrol after stepping on a mine when another exploded under Bakken, he said.

Sporre was about 10 metres from a mine when the force of the second explosion, Goksel added.

He said Sporre was taken to the Rambam hospital in Haifa and Bakken was treated at UNIFIL's hospital in Naqurah, on the South Lebanon coast.

Goksel said both men were now in a stable condition.

Eleven UNIFIL personnel of the 5,700-manning force from nine nations have lost their lives in mine explosions since the force deployed in South Lebanon in 1978.

International panel to investigate Israeli atrocities

NICOSIA (AP) — An international panel will meet in Cyprus in May to investigate charges of war crimes and human rights violations by Israel in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, a prominent British attorney announced Monday.

John Platts-Mills, general secretary of an independent group called the International Commission of Inquiry into Israeli Violations of the Rights of the Palestinian and Lebanese Peoples, declared that Israel's allies "must bear a share of the responsibility" for "gross violations of international law" during the three-month-old Palestinian uprising.

He said the decision to investigate Israeli actions was taken after a two-day meeting in Nicosia at the weekend of the 10-member secretariat of the commission, a non-government grouping of jurists, academics and other prominent figures.

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Israeli soldiers beat up Palestinian women in Ramallah

Sabotage ruled out in Cyprus plane crash

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Investigators have ruled out sabotage or an air traffic control error as possible reasons why a chartered airliner crashed in northern Cyprus Saturday, a Turkish official said.

All 15 people on board were killed when the Yugoslav Boeing 727, leased to a Turkish-based firm, hit mountains 25 kilometres north of Nicosia on a flight to pick up about 140 Finnish tourists.

Ismet Erustun, deputy under-secretary at Turkey's Transport Ministry, told reporters he had ruled out sabotage and no air traffic control faults had been found.

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Sporre was about 10 metres from a mine when the force of the second explosion, Goksel added.

He said Sporre was taken to the Rambam hospital in Haifa and Bakken was treated at UNIFIL's hospital in Naqurah, on the South Lebanon coast.

Goksel said both men were now in a stable condition.

Eleven UNIFIL personnel of the 5,700-manning force from nine nations have lost their lives in mine explosions since the force deployed in South Lebanon in 1978.

'Lebanese Forces' — de facto government in Christian heartland

By Samir F. Ghattas
The Associated Press

BEIRUT — The "Lebanese Forces" militia has taken over most of the functions of government in the country's Christian enclave in a move that deepens the dismemberment of Lebanon into sectarian mini-states.

With the central government's authority crippled by 13 years of civil war, the militia, the main rightist fighting force, now controls security, fiscal and social programmes in the Christians' last foothold in a country they once dominated.

"We depended on the state to protect its citizens in 1975," when the civil war broke out, Lebanese Forces spokesman Georges Abdul Massih said in an interview in east Beirut.

"But within six months, state authority collapsed. Its security, military, political and public services apparatus has disintegrated."

With little prospect in sight for a political settlement that would reunite the fractured country, the Lebanese Forces advocate decentralisation, with the various sectarian cantons governing themselves.

Some 900,000 Christians, mainly Maronite Catholics driven out of other areas, have been squeezed into a coastal strip running northeast from Beirut. It comprises about 10 per cent of Lebanon's 10,452-square-kilometre area.

The sector is ringed by hostile forces.

The "Lebanese Forces," commanded by one-time medical student Samir Geagea, oppose Syrian efforts to give Muslims equal power with the once-dominant Christians.

That stand effectively prevents Maronite President Amin Gemayel from making a deal with the Muslims to end the civil war and reunite the country.

Own systems in every sphere

In this political vacuum, the "Lebanese Forces" have effectively replaced the police, levy taxes on a wide range of goods and services, run public transport and their own television station and newspapers and even collect the garbage.

"We wouldn't do the job if the state did it... but it doesn't," said Abdul Massih.

The militia, which has its own prisons, takes care of detaining common criminals, which it hands over to Lebanon's largely ineffectual courts. But it deals with security problems itself, imprisoning those it considers its enemies.

Militia tribunals try suspected saboteurs or spies, and justice is usually summary. Two men alleged to have tried to assassinate Geagea recently were shot by a firing squad.

The militia comprises around 8,000 hard-core fighters with around 100 Soviet-made T-55 and U.S.-built M-48 tanks, as well as heavy artillery. It has some 30,000 reservists.

The militia is backed by about 8,000 soldiers in Christian-dominated units of the Lebanese army, mostly deployed on the borders of the Christian area.

The militia runs its own port, has converted a strip of the coastal highway north of Beirut into an airfield and, with private companies, operates two ferries to Larnaca, Cyprus.

The Lebanese economy has virtually collapsed. But life is comparatively normal with a boom in construction, real estate and nightlife.

Under Geagea, the Lebanese Forces have reorganised into a regular military structure. Retired army officers run the militia's three main training camps, where militiamen undergo "political and moral education" as well as military instruction, Abdul Massih said.

Christian officials said some 200 officers have graduated in the last two years.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 7711-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:00 Koran

15:30 Programme review

15:45 Children's programmes

16:00 In Search of the Past

17:00 Local programme

17:45 Soccer

19:00 Local programme

19:15 Message from Oman

19:30 Local programme

19:45 Programme review and Varities

20:00 News in Arabic

20:30 Cultural programmes

20:45 Arabic Series

21:00 Cultural programmes

21:15 Varities programme

21:30 News summary in Arabic

21:45 Close down

PROGRAMME TWO

19:00 Comedy: Le Veux Mon cheri

19:15 French varities: Un DB de plus

19:30 News in Hebrew

19:45 Varities

20:00 News in Arabic

20:30 No Place Like Home

21:00 Stand by — Light! General Action!

21:15 News in English

21:30 Murder She Wrote

21:45 Three's Company

22:00 Evening Show

22:15 Evening Show

22:30 Evening Show

22:45 Evening Show

23:00 Evening Show

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32:15 Evening Show

HOME BRIEFS

ROYAL DECREE: A Royal Decree was issued Monday approving a law on licensing and registering sports clubs in the Kingdom. Another Royal Decree approved the statutes of the Jordanian Olympic Committee.

JOURNALISM: Minister of Information Hani Al Khasawneh Monday called at the Jordanian Press Association and met with its President Rakan Al Majali and members of the association's board. The meeting discussed a number of issues related to the journalism profession and the association's plans and projects to further improve the standard of the profession in the Kingdom.

AGREEMENT: The Ministry of Planning and the Japanese Agency for International Cooperation last week signed an agreement according to which the latter will carry out a study on underground water in the Jafri and Hassa Basins in southern Jordan.

According to the agreement the Japanese agency will carry out drilling on artesian wells to determine the quality and quantity of water in the two basins. The agreement was signed by the ministry's Secretary General Ziyad Fariz and a representative of the Japanese agency.

DONATION: Ministry of Information staff have donated over JD 6,000 to support the current anti-Israeli Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

JORDAN VALLEY: The legal committee of the Lower House of Parliament Monday held a meeting during which it discussed the 1977 temporary law for the development of Jordan Valley and a 1988 draft amendment to the said law. The committee will continue its discussions Wednesday.

SPANISH: Speaker of the Spanish Lower House of Parliament Felix Pons is due here Thursday at the head of a five-member delegation for a six-day visit to Jordan at the invitation from Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akef Al Fayez. During the visit, Pons will meet with Fayez, the Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi and a number of House members and senior Jordanian officials. He will also visit a number of historical sites and cultural and educational institutions in the Kingdom.

COINS: A lecture by Nayef Qousus on defaults in minting coins will be delivered at the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation in Amman Wednesday March 2, 1988. Another lecture on the Zionist movement by Abdul Wahhab Al Masri will also be delivered Wednesday at the foundation's headquarters in Shmeisani.

SCHOLARSHIPS: The Chinese embassy announced that it has made available a number of scholarships for Jordanian students to study at Chinese universities in the 1988/1989 academic year. It said that students will be offered courses in computer science, mechanical and electronic engineering provided that their general average in the tawjihi examination was no less than 80 per cent.

NEWSMEN: A three-member delegation representing the Jordanian Arabic daily newspapers has returned to Amman following a two-week visit to the United Kingdom. They met with officials and parliament members and attended parliament sessions. They also toured economic, informational and social institutions.

HASHISH: The Military Court has sentenced Samir Abdullah Kamel to three years in prison for possessing hashish. The military governor Monday endorsed the sentence.

HEALTH: The Ministry of Health's Health Education Department has made plans for holding training courses next month for women teachers in the schools compulsory stage. The courses will orient the participants in basic health care and the role of teachers in health campaigns, students care and accidents at schools. Nearly 50 teachers will take part in the courses.

EXHIBITION: The director of education in South Shmeisani Monday opened a book exhibition at Sukamah preparatory school. The 10-day exhibition displays reference books, religious publications, books translated from different languages, scientific and children's books.

YUGOSLAV: Minister of Interior Rajal Dajani met here Monday with Yugoslav ambassador to Jordan Zoran Popovic. They discussed aspects of bilateral cooperation in a number of fields.

Jaber opens 5 projects in Mafrq

MAFRAQ (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Yousef Hamdan Al Jaber Monday opened five development projects in Mafrq Governorate and toured a number of regions to discuss development schemes with local officials.

Depuising for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, the minister inaugurated a central market place, a bus terminal, a municipality hall, a handicraft zone and an enclosure for cattle and livestock in Mafrq region which altogether cost JD 500,000.

The projects were financed

through loans from the Cities and Villages Development Bank and the Mafrq Municipality.

The Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment has worked out a comprehensive plan for the development of the badia region, the minister told a meeting here after the inauguration ceremonies.

He said the plan aims at exploiting the agricultural potential of the badia region and initiating income-generating projects for their inhabitants.

He said that a special team is now involved in studying the region's economic and social needs

prior to deciding on projects to be implemented there. The plan, the minister said, will address the badia's water resources to ensure that they can be exploited economically and used in the reclamation of lands that would be used for growing crops and pasture lands for animals.

Jaber underlined the importance of the municipalities role in the development of badia districts which, he said, should be greened with trees and other vegetation.

The meeting was attended by representatives of badia settlements, municipal councils and Governor Fayez Abbadi among other local officials.

Jordan marks army day today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Today Tuesday March 1, 1988 marks the 32nd anniversary of the Arabisation of the Jordanian Armed Forces upon orders from His Majesty King Hussein.

The King ordered the termination of the services of General John Glubb, commander of the Armed Forces and said that Jordanian officers should take up the command of the Armed Forces in the country. The move was significant in view of the ongoing Arab-Israeli conflict and the dangers that Israel's occupation of Palestine posed to the Arab Nation. It also came as a manifestation of Jordan's desire to rid itself of foreign domination.

Since March 1, 1956 King Hussein has continually worked towards strengthening the Armed Forces and has made all efforts to ensure they were provided with the most up-to-date weapons required for defending the homeland.



Osama Zawaideh

Zawaideh exhibits at Geothe

AMMAN (J.T.) — An exhibition of paintings by artist Osama Zawaideh Al Uzaizat, organised by the Geothe Institute in Amman opens today under the patronage of Haidar Mahmoud, director general of the Department of Culture and Fine Arts.

According to artist Ibrahim Al Najjar, Zawaideh's paintings depict nature in Jordan and are the culmination of a strong mixture of warm and cold colours. The exhibition will run from March 1-7 and will be open daily from 9-1 and 4-6 except Fridays.



TABLE TENNIS: The table tennis team of Fourth Royal Mechanised Division defeated

Taba'a, German team discuss standardisation

AMMAN (Petra) — Industry, Trade and Supply Minister Hamdi Al Taba'a Monday met with a West German team specialised in specifications and standardisation and discussed with them ways of improving and developing work at the ministry's Department of Specifications and Standardisation.

The two sides also discussed

providing the department with the necessary training cadres, technical information and equipment to improve its performance.

Taba'a also met separately Monday with the Iraqi, Spanish and Yugoslav ambassadors in Amman and discussed with them bilateral relations and cooperation in trade and industry fields.

Soviet delegation ends visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Chairman of the Soviet Religious Affairs Council Constantine Kharachev and his accompanying delegation Monday left Amman after a four-day visit to Jordan during which he met with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and a number of senior officials.

During the visit, Kharachev also held talks with Awaq and Islamic Affairs Minister Abdul

Aziz Al Khayyat on boosting cooperation between the two countries in cultural and religious affairs.

The two sides also discussed the subject of scholarships which Jordan offers to Soviet students to study Islamic religion at Jordanian universities.

The Soviet delegation also toured a number of religious institutions and historical sites in the country during the visit.

New courses at U of J to create jobs for engineers

AMMAN — Some 23 students are beginning graduate industrial engineering studies in a brand new programme at the University of Jordan. The programme is being developed with assistance from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). "It's perfect timing," said Dr. Munif Hijazi, Chairman of the Industrial Engineering Department, "this new speciality will open up job opportunities for our engineers here and in the Gulf." The almost \$3.75 million that USAID is contributing will get the programme off to a good start by providing professors during the first four years of the programme, sabbatical opportunities for University of Jordan professors, state of the art laboratory equipment and training for lab technicians. Doctoral scholarships for professors who will teach in the graduate programme, as well as scholarships for teaching assistants and researchers will be provided as well. In addition an awareness programme including seminars for industry, and referral services for graduates will be funded.

Scholarships available

AMMAN: The Amman Baccalaureate School (ABS) is offering a number of scholarship places in its Senior School for Sept. 1, 1988. Scholarships offered are of three types: Full scholarships; bursaries carrying 50 per cent discount on tuition fees; and bursaries carrying 25 per cent discount on tuition fees.

Full scholarships are available to students wishing to enter the school's grade 7, grade 10 Bridge Year, or grade 11 Tawjihi. Bursaries are available to students

wishing to enter grades 7-11 inclusive.

Among the scholarships offered are two music scholarships in grade 7 and three science scholarships in grade 10 Bridge Year or grade 11 Tawjihi, for students with demonstrable talent in these areas.

Further information is available from the vice-principal, Mr. Hassan Hamzeh (tel. 845572). Application forms, with full details, are available from the school and must be returned by Sunday, March 6.



French Minister of Telecommunications Gerard Longuet (second from left) and Minister of Telecommunications Khaled Al Haj Hassan

(third from right) head their respective delegations to the talks that concluded Monday (Petra photo)

Minister ends visit

Jordan, France agree to step up cooperation in communication field

AMMAN (Petra) — French Telecommunications Minister Gerard Longuet left Amman Monday at the end of a two-day working visit to Jordan during which he held talks with his Jordanian counterpart Khaled Al Haj Hassan on promoting Jordanian-French cooperation in telecommunications fields.

In a statement upon departure the minister said that the talks were fruitful and that agreement was reached on maintaining contacts between the two sides for further cooperation in telecommunications fields.

Earlier Monday Longuet voiced his country's readiness to help Jordan carry out a project for an automatic postal sorting system which the ministry intends to implement.

He announced that France will offer Jordan a five million franc grant (JD 300,000) and another five million franc loan for training personnel in handling electronic telephone exchanges.

The two ministers reviewed Jordan's telecommunications projects specially those being implemented in the rural regions. They agreed to allocate 65 million francs (nearly JD 4 million) out of

a French loan totalling 200 million francs for implementing a telephone expansion project in the country. Under an earlier agreement France had pledged to provide 200 million francs in loans to enable Jordan carry out different development schemes.

The talks in which Minister of Planning Taber Kanaan and other Jordanian officials took part covered areas in which Jordan and France can step up cooperation in promoting telephone, postal and telecommunications services in the country.

Longuet said that the French government was willing to make available more funds that can help Jordan carry out development projects in the future.

France maintains excellent relations with Jordan and for this reason it is ready to offer any help towards implementing Jordanian schemes, Longuet said.

Haj Hassan said that a joint French-Jordanian committee formed during His Majesty King Hussein's recent visit to France is bound to contribute towards further fruitful cooperation between France and Jordan.

French Ambassador to Jordan Patrick Leclercque and a French delegation accompanying Longuet attended the meeting.

Haj Hassan accompanied his French counterpart to Jerash where they inspected an electronic telephone exchange financed through a French loan.

New educational law drafted, Regent says

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, said Sunday that educational teams, working on the implementation of the resolutions passed by the national educational conference last year, have drafted a new education law.

This draft law is aimed at developing the educational system, raising the efficiency and standard of teachers and adapting education to the labour market's needs, Prince Hassan said during a visit to the Ministry of Education.

The educational process is a national responsibility and should not be confined to the Ministry of Education alone, but should rather involve different sectors

which have helped in reassessing the existing educational system, Prince Hassan said.

Prince Hassan noted that since nearly one third of the Kingdom's population were students at schools or universities, a major part of the new plan was dedicated to school buildings with a view to providing sufficient schools to cope with the increase in the number of students once the new educational system has been put into force, and to dispose of rented buildings.

At present, the country has 212 rented school buildings which accommodate two-shift system. Another 466 rented buildings are used for one-shift schools, Prince Hassan said.

The new national educational system gives due consideration to

training teachers in terms of qualification and evaluation of teachers performance. The plan aims at providing proper training to the country's 22,000 men and women teachers with community college degrees, and 6,000 teachers with university degrees.

The plan also aims at creating teachers clubs and other incentives and fringe benefits for teachers, the Prince said.

The new plan provides for the development of educational management, supervision and guidance and gives proper attention to children's health. In this respect, certain criteria have been laid down for the training of school principals, and supervisors and also for the establishment of centres for training vocational in-

structors and supervisors. According to the new plan, a new system has been laid for examinations to be held at the end of the secondary stage, and methods have been introduced for assessing the results of students in the first 10 grades.

Prince Hassan later chaired a meeting of a special committee entrusted with discussing the question of financing the educational sector. Discussion focused on contacts with the World Bank to finance educational projects.

A technical committee was formed to follow up the implementation of educational projects. Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi and senior ministry officials were present at the meetings.

What next?

As'ad Abdul Rahman, president of the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation on Sunday gave a lecture on the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories, Sana Atiyeh reports:

AMMAN — "We in Jordan must do something besides financial support and lip service to help the Palestinian uprising if it is to achieve its goal: The liberation of the land from the Zionists. And if there are obstacles we should still be able to challenge these obstacles and accept the consequences," several Jordanian women demanded after a lecture here Sunday on the uprising. They added that prominent Palestinian and Jordanian figures in the country should lead the people to some sort of effective activities that could contribute to the goals of the uprising.

These statements came as a result of Dr. As'ad Abdul Rahman's emphasis in his lecture that "no one should expect from the revolution (uprising) more than it can achieve. The ball is now on our side to continue what the uprising has so far achieved," Abdul Rahman, director of the Abdul Hamid Foundation, stressed in his lecture.

Addressing a large audience at the Chamber of Commerce Sunday evening, at a gathering sponsored by the Professional and Working Women's Club, Abdul Rahman said that the achievements of the uprising have been greater than expected. He explained that it has succeeded on the Arab, Palestinian, Israeli and international levels.

"The effect of the revolt gave life to the Arab body after it was



Dr. As'ad Abdul Rahman lecturing Sunday

almost paralysed. It dealt an unprecedented blow to the excessively moderate stands that characterised Arab officialdom and that were on the increase at the public level as well," the lecturer said.

The uprising, he said, has succeeded in unifying the political will of the Palestinians, lifted the siege off the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and given impetus to Palestinian political action. Abdul Rahman said that the uprising has also focused attention on many practices that were embarrassing for Arabs and Palestinians — such as the lifting of the siege on the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, and the "burial of sectarian beliefs based on race and religion."

Cost to Israel
Abdul Rahman explained that the uprising has achieved much success in deepening the division within Israeli society, and in causing great political, economic and military loss to the Israeli authorities. He said that not only has the enemy lost its image of being a "democratic state," but also suffered great financial losses.

"Three months ago the occupation was profitable for the Zionists. Now they are suffering from financial losses because of the revolt and the strikes," he noted.

On the international level, he stressed that the media coverage of the uprising was a success for the Palestinian cause and a blow

for the Israeli image. The media informed more people around the world of the just cause of the Palestinian people, and exposed Israel's brutality and inhumanity.

Abdul Rahman outlined the causes of the revolt, saying that many factors contributed to its eruption, especially the brutal measures used by the occupiers, such as demolishing homes, arbitrary arrests, deportations and confiscation of land. He added that the Palestinians under occupation took their initiative by revolting when they realised that the Arab states had relegated the Palestinian question to a second position in Arab priorities.

He stated that though the uprising began spontaneously without outside directing, "after two weeks, it became obvious that the revolt had become organised." Abdul Rahman gave credit to all Palestinian parties, especially the five major ones: "The people are led by united leaderships by all Palestinian factions, especially the PLO," he stressed.

What is next?

Abdul Rahman concluded his lecture by saying: "We must be careful, and distinguish between what the revolt can achieve and our responsibilities towards the Palestinian cause. We, the Arabs and our leaderships should not expect the uprising to achieve more than it is capable of achieving." He added that if it is to make a breakthrough towards a

just solution, "we have to give it more than just praise and rhetorical support."

After the lecture, one of the audience told the Jordan Times that though Abdul Rahman's lecture was informative and well-structured, "he failed to give the audience an answer to what practical moves should be taken by Arabs and Palestinians outside the occupied territories to support the uprising, besides financial support and lip service, especially as prominent figures like Dr. Abdul Rahman are the ones who should lead the masses to constructive steps."

On this, Abdul Rahman told the Jordan Times that each individual must work towards supporting the uprising within his or her own limits: By financial support, and mobilising awareness of the facts of the situation. "We must ask ourselves whether we want to liberate the land or not. If we do, then the leaderships and organisations should constructively contribute to the continuity of revolt. If they don't want to or cannot do anything, then we as people cannot do anything unless we are led. Change in societies is usually led by political leaderships, opposition parties, and unions," he contended. Abdul Rahman added that if no serious political moves are taken by Arab and Palestinian leaderships, then "how are we supposed to twist the Israeli and American arms? The people must be led."

Jordan Times

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The ship of return: A political journey

By Hanna Nasir

The writer is the deported president of Birzeit University in the West Bank. He was among Palestinian deportees who last month planned to board a ship bound to Haifa, Palestine.

FOR ten whole days world attention, through the media focused on one aspect of the Palestine problem: Israel's deportation of Palestinian people and the right of the deportees to return to their homeland.

A ship on which the deportees were supposed to sail on their return voyage to Palestinian shores never made the actual trip; nevertheless, it was able to achieve its objectives with the help of the world press and information media.

The "Ship of Return" was intended by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to serve as part of an organised support

for the Palestinian people's uprising in the Israeli occupied Arab territory. The idea succeeded in reaching to the minds and feelings of numerous world thinkers, politicians, religious leaders, writers and poets who gathered in Athens to share with the Palestinians their 'return' journey home.

What specifically marked the event was perhaps the presence amongst this group of a large number of European, American and even Israeli Jews, all rallying in support of the Palestinian people's right in their homeland and to self-determination. It was clear that they all recognised the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

More than 200 journalists and representatives of world information media, who were among those gathered for the trip, conducted interviews with the

Palestinians and the deportees, hearing detailed stories about their sufferings under Israeli rule. Appearing in newspapers later, the journalists' reports relayed to the world the plight of the deportees, reaffirming their right to return to their homeland.

The world media focused the light on the first deportee: Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh. Sheikh Sayeh, president of the Palestine National Council (PNC) is a religious man who enjoyed the respect and affection of all members of the group. Sheikh Sayeh led the deportees and their friends in a special prayer in which Muslims, Christians and Jews took part; displaying the noble meanings of the Islamic religion and the Muslim people's tolerance towards other faiths.

World attention was also focused on the plight of the four

Palestinians who were recently deported from the Palestinian homeland: Bashir Al Kheiri, Jibril Rujub, Jamal Jibara and Husam Khader Mohammad. Bashir Al Kheiri's story with the Israelis as reported by the journalists presented to the readers a picture of Israel's systematic torture of Arab people. The journalists also published the text of a letter sent to Bashir from a Jewish woman living in a house in the occupied Arab town of Ramleh originally owned by Bashir's family. The woman said that her conscience could no longer bear the burden of having to live in a home stolen from Arabs who are now being evicted from their Palestinian homeland, and so she would hand over the house to an Arab society in Ramleh.

The journalists also reported the story of a Jewish woman from Israel, who as a child, was carried

on board the ship Exodus along with European Jews to settle in Palestine. Now, after 40 years, this woman declared her intention to share with the deportees their experience of returning to their fatherland.

But perhaps the climax of the enthusiastic support for the Palestinians was manifested in a huge demonstration held in Greece, protesting Israel's continued occupation of Arab land and condemning U.S. support for the Jewish state. The deportees and their friends who were among those taking part in the protest heard speeches on the Palestinian people's plight from Sheikh Sayeh and from Nazareth Mayor Tawfiq Zayyad.

The "Ship of Return" was a simple idea, but it served as a profound embodiment of the Palestinian people's national right in their homeland which is

at the heart of the Palestinian-Zionist struggle.

For this reason, Israel employed all its terrorist techniques to prevent the ship from sailing. It regarded this peace ship as a war ship and so it sent threats to its Greek and Cypriot sailors and finally blew up the ship on the day it was scheduled to sail. Israel has carried out this terrorist action against a ship whose sole weapon was U.N. Security Council Resolution 667 which condemns Israel's deportation policy and calls for the repatriation of the deportees.

This "Ship of Return" will nevertheless, remain as a symbol of the Palestinian people's right to their homeland. Sooner or later this ship will set sail carrying deportees, refugees and all displaced Palestinians to Palestine — the land of affection, justice and peace.

Meanwhile, back home...

IF U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and other Americans would like to know why American credibility in the Arab World is at a low point, they should look to what is happening today at the United Nations General Assembly emergency session to discuss American efforts to close the U.N. observer mission of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). The case is symptomatic of all that plagues American attitudes to the Arab-Israeli conflict, and comes at an opportune, if ironic, moment, which nicely encapsulates the fundamental imbalance in the American position vis-a-vis Arab-Israeli peace-making.

The United States Congress passed a law which would close the PLO's U.N. office, while the State Department and the U.N. believe such a move would be illegal, and contrary to the United States' obligations under the 1947 headquarters agreement between the U.S. and the U.N. We have to take the State Department view at its face value, and accept that the department is against closing the PLO office at the U.N. But the underlying weakness in the American posture in the Middle East is clearly reflected in the law passed by the U.S. Congress — a law which betrays an attitude, and an attitude which blatantly discriminates against the Palestinians. It is the same attitude that was reflected in former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's statement a few days ago that Mr. Shultz' efforts in the Middle East should try to promote a formula that offers security to Israel, and self-esteem to the Arabs. Note the discrepancy: Security for the Israelis, self-esteem for the Palestinians and other Arabs. Why not security for both people?

The complex negotiating dynamic now taking place in the area would be unnecessary if the United States and Israel recognised that the Palestinians are a people who deserve the same human and political rights as the Israelis. But this is not the case, and therefore we all engage in complicated games that attempt to find sophisticated formulae to circumvent the basic inequity in the American-Israeli position.

In the PLO U.N. mission case, the United States Congress goes beyond the traditional American double standard on the Palestine issue, and ignores a treaty obligation with the United Nations, which is a mirror of the whole world. If the United States is so loose with its obligations under international law, and so discriminatory in its application of standards of justice and rights for Arabs and Israelis, is it any surprise that peace-making is so complex, and that American credibility is so strained?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Martyrs fall for a cause

THE Palestinian people through their current uprising Sunday offered two more martyrs as a sacrifice for their freedom. To raise to 11 the number of martyrs that fell in the uprising during U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's visit to the occupied Palestinian land. These martyrs were sacrificed so that the Palestinian people can regain their legitimate rights which had been usurped by the Israelis with the force of arms, and the martyrs were killed by the Israeli soldiers who continue to carry out atrocities and commit crimes in the occupied Arab territory. What the Palestinians are seeking is freedom, and their rights in their own homeland and an end to terrorism and occupation of their homes and their lands by the Israeli enemy. They are demanding that they be given the opportunity to live in peace in this land. In their endeavour to achieve their goal, the Palestinians are being backed by the international community and by all peace-loving nations, but their rights should be re-established with the help of all nations and backed by the U.N. Security Council and its resolutions. Justice should be done and the Palestinian people should be helped to regain their land despite the Israeli arrogance and the Israeli atrocities.

Al Dustour: Hearing both sides

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz heard Jordan's views about the Middle East question, and this way similar to those heard in Damascus, because the two countries are adopting the same stand which was endorsed at the Amman Arab summit. Shultz will no doubt find the same answer and hear the same views anywhere in the Arab World, and this is represented in the rejection of any partial solutions for the Arab-Israeli problem, and any unilateral treaty with the enemy. In contrast, Shultz heard Israel's total rejection of peace with the Arabs based on exchanging land for peace; and heard from Shamir and his government a refusal of the idea of an international conference. We therefore, conclude that the Israeli government has now helped to empty Shultz' initiative from its essence and foiled America's attempt to help end the Middle East problem. Also, since Shultz' mission has been void of the Palestinian element in view of the Palestinian people's doubts about the new American mission, we conclude that Shultz' tour is bound to end in total failure. Those who had expected this result were of course realising that Shultz will be confronted by Israel's rejection which would no doubt foil all bids by the United States to find a solution.

Sawt Al Shaab: Did Shultz get the message?

WE believe that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' tour in the Middle East is difficult, for two basic reasons: First, because of the intransigent position of the Israeli government which still denies the Palestinian people's rights and Israel's pursuit of an aggressive policy against the Palestinian people. Second, because the U.S. stand is still inflexible and because the U.S. administration is still adhering to traditional stands in support of Israel, regardless of its actions. Shultz is trying to bring us another picture of the situation but he has failed to present integrated ideas or new bids for a real and lasting peace. Shultz saw by himself the Israeli atrocities in the occupied Arab territory and saw how the Palestinians struggling to regain their right and their freedom. He also heard from the Arab capitals views about a lasting solution and a rejection of partial solutions and unilateral treaties. What the Palestinians and the Arabs want is a comprehensive solution for the problem and one which implements U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 designed to bring peace to the region through an international conference. We hope that Shultz will try now to think seriously of new ideas that might contribute meaningfully towards genuine peace.

Women's voice: Justice for the Palestinians

The following "action alert" messages were sent to all Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) national associations by the Amman and Jerusalem associations of the YWCA, and the Geneva-based World YWCA.

From Amman

WE wish to raise our voice in support of the United Nations Security Council resolution condemning the Israeli occupation authorities for their harsh and brutal treatment of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories of Palestine.

The daily killing of young men, women and children, torture of detained youth, the continued violations of human rights and international conventions, the closure of schools and universities, as well as the Israeli military court ruling to uproot more Palestinians from their homeland, expel them from their country, and separate them from their families, stand condemned by the world community.

A million and a half Palestinians, Christians and Muslims, continue to live in desperate conditions and brutal oppression under the iron fist of the Israeli occupation.

We call upon the World YWCA movement to raise women's voices for peace in the forums to which it has access at international, national and local levels, including the media, and in cooperation with other NGOs:

— in support of the struggle of the Palestinian people for self-determination and for peace with justice, dignity and freedom;

— in condemnation of con-

tinued Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories which has gone on for over two decades now;

— in support of United Nations Security Council resolution dated January 6, 1988, passed unanimously, condemning the Israeli decision to expel more Palestinians from their homeland.

We also call upon national associations to hold a day of prayer for the Palestinian people on March 30, Day of the Land for the Palestinian people, to inform their membership and communities about what is happening in the occupied territories, the root causes of unrest, the condition of the Palestinians in these territories and the international consensus and United Nations resolutions on a settlement to remove these causes and bring peace to the area.

Amman, Jordan

January 1988

From Jerusalem

FOR how long should the Palestinians continue to die defencelessly before attaining freedom?

As time goes by and the consequences of Israeli aggression become facts in the eyes of the world, the hurt grows deeper and

the hopes become dimmer; this is especially true for young Palestinians. Their dismay and frustration at their elders' peaceful efforts to attain political rights and security for their people in their homeland have reached the limit of human tolerance. Their tender years are marked by continued violence committed against them and against many of their loved ones. Their hopes for a better future are shaken by the omnipresence of the Israeli occupation forces in their midst and by the continued denial of their political, national and human rights "at gun point".

Our young are refusing to turn their dreams into nightmares and hopes into desperation. Instead they have decided to wage their own battle against injustice, oppression and the occupation of their land by directly confronting the Israeli army with its arsenal, with their young bodies, proclaiming "NO! IT IS ENOUGH! Death is kinder than despair, and life without freedom is worse than death!" Almost 50 people, mostly young, have been killed, hundreds are seriously wounded, and many more are arrested, tortured and detained.

Instead of tackling the problem directly, the Israelis are sinking deeper in the use of oppressive measures. Trials are held en masse. Secret files to which only prosecutors and judges are allowed access are withheld from defence lawyers and defendants.

Special detention camps are erected for these children where all forms of torture are practised. Expulsion orders have been issued against Palestinians — to add to the list of hundreds of Palestinians already expelled from their country. Curfews are imposed and troops are reinforced all over the occupied territories and Jerusalem. Refugee camps are a special target.

Palestinians do not extend their arms for charity. They demand their right to their homeland where they will be capable of improving the quality of their own life and the development of their institutions.

The struggle is a liberation movement and not merely a struggle for a better quality of life.

We have clear political demands that we hope will not be overshadowed by the dramatic events that are taking place, for they are at the root cause of these events.

We urge our friends to help us attain our political rights through peaceful means. We urge you to help further prevent the shedding of young people's blood. An international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations with the full participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the sole and legitimate representative of our people, and all parties to the conflict is one step towards achieving our goals of self-determination and the establishment of our Palestinian

state in our homeland.

In the meantime, as you exert pressure on your governments for the convening of such a conference, we urge you to rally support to stop all violence against our people, especially our children in camps and elsewhere, to rescind the expulsion order against Palestinians, to stop the mass arrests and illegal trials, to lift curfews from refugee camps, to open educational institutions, several of which have been ordered closed during this period, and to stop the provocations by the army, the settlers and Ariel Sharon who chose to move into the Arab quarter in the Old City of Jerusalem.

Jerusalem

January 1988

From Geneva

OVER the last months the increasing tension in the occupied territories of Gaza, the West Bank and Jerusalem has made headlines in the world media and provoked a worldwide expression of concern and condemnation of the repressive policy of Israel.

More importantly, these recent dramatic events have revealed to the eyes of the world the fundamental injustice imposed on the Palestinian people and their rightful claim for liberation and self-determination.

As in South Africa, young people in Palestine are on the forefront of the struggle, risking their lives in order that their people

may live in peace, with dignity and freedom. They symbolise and strengthen the hope of millions of men, women and children that justice will prevail.

Without a recognition of the rights of Palestinian people, there can be no peace for all the peoples in the Middle East. Repression and violence create anger and hatred, destructive for the oppressors and the oppressed.

At this time of crisis we are called, as members of the World YWCA, to listen to the cry of our sister associations in Jordan and in the West Bank and to take a stand in accordance with the resolutions on the Middle East we have taken at the two last World YWCA Council meetings.

More than ever before, it is time to call for a just settlement of the conflict through peaceful means, before it is too late. As we resolved in Phoenix, "National and local associations should adopt as a priority for themselves constructive involvement in the problems of women in areas of conflict."

Working together for peace and justice in the Middle East is such a constructive involvement that we must act upon now.

Enclosed are the two urgent calls sent by our sisters in Jordan and in the occupied territories of Palestine. With two voices, they express the same hope, that the world movement will stand by them and by the just cause of their people.

Ex-congressman blasts U.S. Mideast policy

By Francis McKenna

JEDDAH — The author of the famous They Dare to Speak Out has blasted the pernicious hold of the influential Jewish lobby on U.S. policy.

In a rousing speech before a large gathering of members of both the American Businessmen of Jeddah (ABJ) and the American Ladies of Jeddah (ALJ) at the Al Fau Holiday Inn on Feb. 21 night, former U.S. congressman Paul Findley urged that America regain its "independence" from the Zionist lobby in its Middle East policy.

Findley, from Jacksonville, Illinois, served in the U.S. Congress for 22 years before running foul of the Israeli lobby and suffering consequent electoral defeat. During his time in Congress he made several far-sighted proposals including the commencement of diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China, before this became diplomatically fashionable, and the founding of a body which was to have been named "The Federation of Advanced Democracies."

Findley's involvement in the Middle East commenced when a constituent of his organisation was arrested and imprisoned as a spy in Aden, South Yemen. Findley's efforts to free the man and his bafflement at the lack of U.S. diplomatic representation in such a strategically sensitive area led him into his now lengthy association with the Middle East and his encyclopedic knowledge of pan-Arab grievances concerning U.S. policy in the region.

The questions he raised when he returned to the corridors of power in Washington made him "the target for the lobby of the state of Israel." Findley's wish for a "bridge of information" between the U.S. government and the PLO was viewed with alarm and "touched a raw nerve in the Israeli lobby."

Findley survived the 1980 congressional elections even though funds from all 50 states of the

union were mobilised against him by the lobby and he was identified nationally "as the worst anti-Semitic congressman in the United States."

Defeat at the next election allowed him the time to write his now famous book. Two years' painstaking research went into the book since Findley knew that he could face financially crippling law suits if he were to be sued and dragged through the courts by the lobbyists. He had to get the facts straight.

Before a rapt audience, he stated that his 22 years of experience on Capitol Hill and 16 years on the Foreign Affairs Committee had led him to conclude that "Israeli pressure is everywhere on the U.S. government."

Findley pointed out that the U.S. government had approved a loan of \$3 billion last year to Israel, and the same sum the year before, even though U.S. government cut-backs were taking place in every other sphere. Findley stated that the loan legislation "swept through the Congress with no real debate, just like a breeze."

Findley emphasised that every American politician would "pay a price at the next election day if they should challenge the voice of the state of Israel." As a result, he went on, many "take the human way out, the easy way out," in resigned acquiescence.

Israeli influence, Findley said, also extended deep into the U.S. State Department where many career diplomats wishing to advance are terrified of offending the slick and highly professional Zionist lobby. "Leaks" of confidential documents were, and still are, commonplace and informants "blackball" those who express views contrary to the official Israeli line. The natural result, said Findley, was that all U.S. State Department officials "think twice, three times, before anything goes on paper."

Findley maintained that the

leaks were never investigated thoroughly and that no one was ever punished, thus leading to a situation where "the American people are short changed and don't get the real judgments they deserve."

The former Congressman thundered that the life imprisonment term imposed on Israeli spy Jonathan Pollard, a former U.S. Navy intelligence analyst, was an aberration "simply because of the gross level of his thievery." Findley also maintained that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) had many other files pending on very similar cases.

Zionist penetration of the U.S. Defence Department is such, he said, that the Israelis were able to tell the U.S. authorities where a 90-millimeter caliber shell was stocked in a particular warehouse in Oahu, Hawaii, in a request for military hardware during the 1973 Middle East war.

Findley emphasised the alarm-

ing nature of this situation, which is not really recognised in all its implications in America, and stated: "As a result of the effective work of the Israeli lobby our U.S. government is not able to pursue its own interests in the Middle East region."

Findley stressed that fear and intimidation mean that American politicians do not want trouble with the lobby: "They do not want to be accused of being anti-Semitic and the rest of the country does not know what is going on. The level of ignorance is appalling."

Findley assured his audience that Zionist zealots were toughest on American Jews in stamping out all criticism of the state of Israel. It is made clear to American Jews that they must keep any reservations they may have concerning Israeli policies strictly to themselves. He maintained the situation was one of "fear and ignorance, and the stakes are

mighty high."

To combat the power of the Israeli lobby, Findley made the following thought-provoking suggestions.

1. All U.S. citizens residing overseas still have the right to vote in American elections. He urged that all present use this right with careful deliberation of the issues involved.

2. Findley recommended that generous contributions should be made to appropriate political figures and organisations. He stressed that "the friends of Israel use our (American) political system to advance their cause and they dig deep into their pockets." Findley noted that there are more than 70 political action committees for or against American politicians depending on their views on Israel and that the friends of Israel are adept at raising considerable political funds.

3. He urged all returning



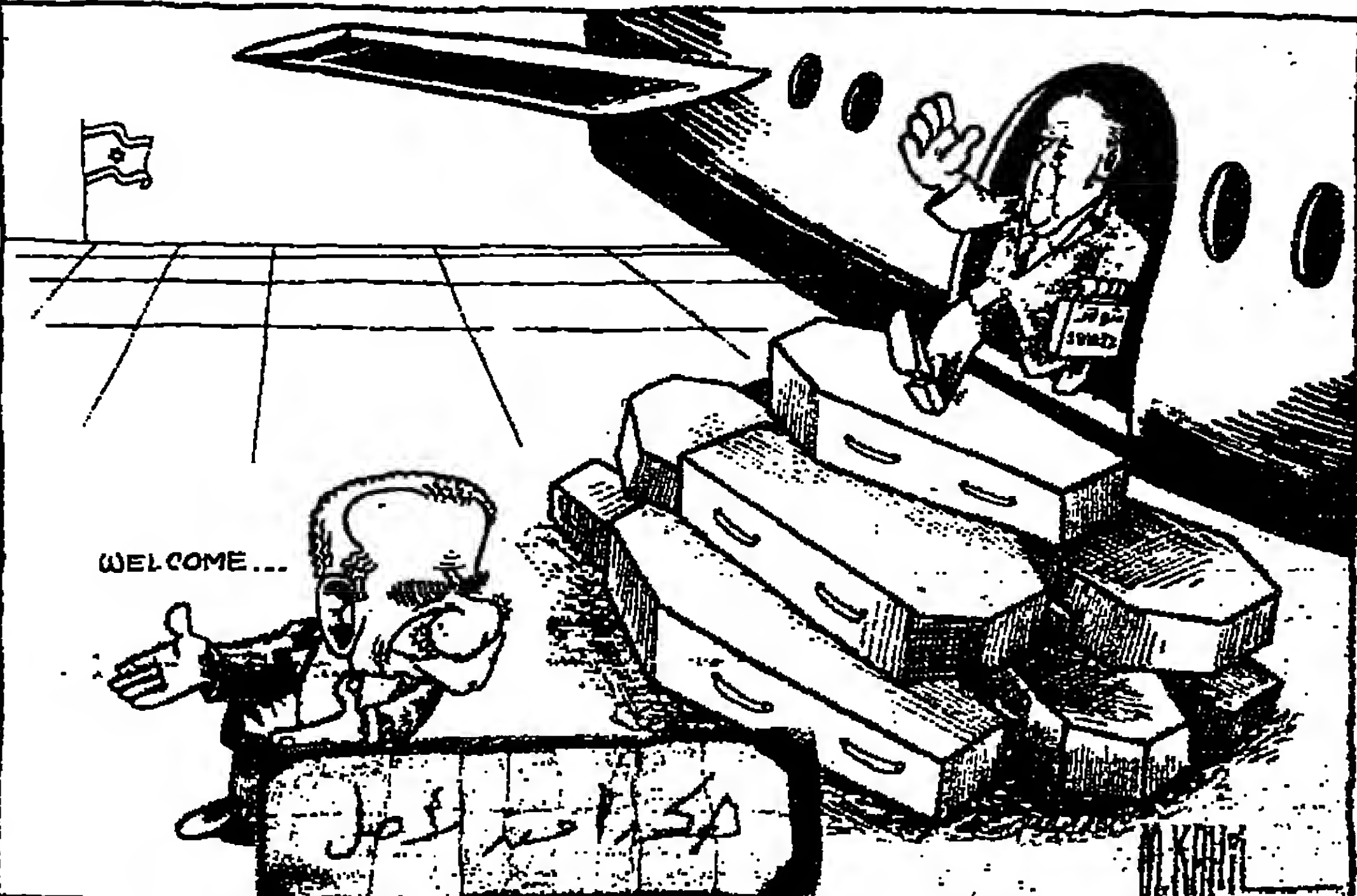
Paul Findley

American expatriates to emphasise the positive aspects of their time in Saudi Arabia, through local newspapers and radio stations, in an effort to dispel the negative stereotypes with which the Arabs have been branded in America.

4. Findley recommended that Saudi Arabia should embark on a public relations "bait" and send its brightest and best from city to city in the United States for local media coverage to highlight the great advances the kingdom has made in recent years and counter unfavourable perceptions.

5. He further suggested "reverse visits" in which prominent American leaders and opinion makers could be invited to Saudi Arabia and thus gain a new perspective. These "could have a profound effect."

Findley concluded humorously that the Israeli lobbyists "are not 10 feet tall" and that "people are intimidated because they are willing to be intimidated." The lobbyists' disruption of a constructive U.S.-Arab dialogue was particularly dangerous, Findley intimated that as many people in every district of the United States could turn things around and that "We run the risk of making terrible mistakes in foreign policy otherwise. We have every opportunity to use the (American) political process. We must not fail to seize it." Arab News.



Continued from page one

Jordan reiterates call for international conference

Following Shultz' first visit to Amman Saturday, Jordan said that it believed that a United Nations sponsored international conference with the participation of all major powers and parties involved in the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), should be the forum for peace talks.

Meanwhile it remained non-committal on the new U.S. proposals which, according to press reports, call for "self-rule" for the Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip for an interim period to be followed by Israeli-Arab negotiations over the "final status" of the occupied areas.

But Monday Jordan indicated that there was no change in the Jordanian position. According to Petra the Crown Prince reiterated "the Jordanian position as was outlined in the first round of talks which were held here last Saturday."

Petra said the Jordanian position was that a peaceful settlement should be based on the implementation of Resolutions 242 and 338 through an international peace conference. The news agency said the talks were "frank and clear." It said that both sides stressed the need for the continuation of "the comprehensive peace process."

They also welcomed the continuation of the Jordanian-American dialogue "within the context of the search for a comprehensive peaceful settlement in the region."

American officials said Shultz's talks in Amman had been constructive. The officials, speaking on Shultz's plane back to occupied Jerusalem, said: "It was a good, constructive discussion... we are not yet at any point where anybody is saying yes or no."

Shultz was to have separate meetings with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and brief them on his talks in Amman.

During his five-day Middle East mission, Shultz has been forced to meet Shamir and Peres separately because the two leaders are unable to reconcile their divergent views on how to approach a peace settlement.

After a breakfast meeting to discuss Shultz's visit Sunday to Cairo, Peres told reporters: "We went over a list of the outstanding issues. I think there is still an input of important ideas. I'm quite encouraged and I hope that this important mission will be continued."

Shultz met Shamir for a private dinner Sunday night but aides declined to comment on what was said.

"It's no secret that Mr. Shamir and myself are divided. We shall try to see if there is any bridgeable solution," Peres said.

U.S. officials said Shultz would decide whether to return to the Middle East to pursue his initiative after he had finished his discussions with King Hussein in London.

Shultz's mission has been plagued with difficulties ranging from a refusal by Palestinians to meet him last Friday in Arab Jerusalem to a frosty reception given him in Damascus Saturday by Syrian President Hafez al-Assad.

The U.S. consulate in Jerusalem is now trying to arrange another session, this time with Palestinians from the Israeli-occupied territories and as far away as the United States, the AP reported.

Arafat condemns U.S. move

PLO leader Yasser Arafat Sunday condemned Shultz's efforts and issued a thinly-veiled call on Israel to accept peace talks with his organisation.

Interviewed in Tunis by a French television network, Arafat said: "I have accurate information, very accurate information, that the aim of the Shultz mission is to stop the uprising, the revolution of our people."

"Peace needs courageous people," he said on the private La Cinq network. "If there are courageous, responsible people who would accept to push forward for peace, we are ready from our side."

ward for peace, we are ready from our side."

Syrian criticism

In Syria, the official Tishrin daily called Shultz's proposals irrelevant.

"The Shultz ideas do not deal with the basic elements of the Palestinian problem," the newspaper said. "They do not indicate the possibility of a serious attempt by Washington to put pressure on Israel."

"Shultz's mission is aimed at gaining time and betting on the collapse" of the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza, Tishrin said.

Kissinger's advice

Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger said in an interview published Sunday that the United States might be wise not to be

come too deeply involved in efforts to forge a Middle East peace.

"It may be better not to get involved than to go in there and have things go wrong," Kissinger said in Time magazine.

"If Shultz doesn't watch his step, he'll have the worst of both worlds," Kissinger said of Secretary of State George Shultz's regional mission to advance American peace ideas. "The Israelis will blame him for betrayal, and the Arabs will dismiss him as Israel's lawyer."

Kissinger, whose "shuttle diplomacy" as Gerald Ford's secretary of state in 1973 and 1974 brought him world acclaim, added: "Shultz doesn't know it, but it's in the nature of things that the Israelis won't settle until everyone's reached exhaustion, just to make sure they get a good deal."

Two more Palestinians fall martyr

"Don't mistake our intention. We are staying here forever," the leaflets said.

Settlers, soldiers freed

Two Jewish settlers suspected of killing two Palestinians Saturday were released on bail and four soldiers filmed beating two Palestinians for more than half an hour near Nablus last week also were released from custody.

The settlers are suspected of killing the two Palestinians in Abud after villagers erected road blocks on the main road.

In Tunis, a senior PLO official said Israeli soldiers attempted to burn 14 Palestinians alive in a West Bank village.

Soldiers set fire to a hut with the Palestinians inside in the village of Qalqilya, Bassam Abu Sherif, an adviser to PLO leader Yasser Arafat, told Reuters Sunday.

Four of the Palestinians survived and were being treated in a Nablus hospital for severe burns, but the other 10 were unaccounted for, presumed burned alive, he said.

"I have every reason to believe that a massacre has been committed," he said.

Abu Sherif said the Palestinians were packed into the small hut made of metal sheeting when

it was set alight, but could not give any further precise details about the incident.

He said only that it took place in the past few days and that Qalqilya had been sealed off. He accused Israeli occupation forces of being behind the incident and said troops were allowing no-one to enter or leave the village.

"The Israeli occupation forces are trying to hide this crime by continuing to seal off the village," he said.

Abu Sherif called on the International Committee of the Red Cross and the United Nations to investigate the affair. An Israeli spokesman denied the PLO charge.

Qalqilya has been among villages and Palestinian refugee camps placed under curfew by the Israeli authorities.

Protests continued Monday in the Gaza Strip where hospital officials said two Palestinians were wounded by gunfire, and in the West Bank city of Ramallah where 50 Arab women and children threw stones at soldiers and taunted them.

Troops fired live ammunition in the air and tear-gas in Ramallah and detained two young boys, AP photographer Martin Cleaver said.

Mellor: Mideast status quo is intolerable

the region.

Mellor said he would report to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on the outcome of his talks during his current tour of four Arab countries. Thatcher is scheduled to hold talks with His Majesty King Hussein later this week.

Earlier Monday, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Foreign Minister Tahir al Masri held talks with Mellor and briefed him on Jordan's stand vis-a-vis efforts for peace in the region.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, quoted Masri as outlining to Mellor the situation of the Palestinian people under Israel's occupation as well as efforts towards reaching a peaceful solution to the conflict. Masri praised Mellor's critical stand of Israel's oppressive measures against the

Arab inhabitants in the occupied territories. The British minister had vehemently scolded an Israeli officer for beating an Arab youth during a visit he made earlier this month to a refugee camp in the occupied Gaza Strip.

Masri told the British minister that the ongoing uprising in the occupied territories was a natural response to continued frustration among the Palestinians as result of the continued Israeli occupation of their homeland, Petra said. It quoted Masri as reiterating the Jordanian stand on the Middle East conflict and its call for convening an international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations.

Mellor stressed the need for holding the proposed conference and voiced his government's concern over continued Israeli prac-

tices against the Arab inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza during his meeting with Rifai.

Mellor paid tribute to King Hussein's efforts for a just and durable peace in the Middle East, Petra said.

The agency quoted Rifai as reiterating Jordan's rejection of any partial or unilateral solutions and the Kingdom's adherence to the idea of an international conference. The prime minister said that just and comprehensive peace could only be achieved through such conference in which all concerned parties including the Palestine Liberation Organisation and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council should take part.

Mellor is expected to be received by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday.



This new type of reading aid for the blind has been unveiled in Hamburg. The latest electronics make it possible, with the aid of a hand-held camera, to convert the print of a newspaper or a book into

Braille. The medical technology industry in the Federal Republic of Germany produced equipment worth more than 4,500 million DM in 1986 — (Photo by IN-Press/dpa)

Technology aids medicine, the blind

By Hilde Simsek

HAMBURG (INP) — A new type of reading instrument in which modern electronics and a hand-held camera are used to convert printed text into Braille characters has just been unveiled in Hamburg. It means that the blind are no longer restricted to Braille reading material specially printed for them, but have access to "normal" literature as well as personal letters and notes.

It may take some time for the "contour-reading system for the blind" to go into industrial production, but already there is no

doubt that this system, developed by the North German Technical University at Clausthal, will greatly improve the orientation power of blind persons. A light-sensitive sensor at the tip of a device resembling a pocket torch now being tested by blind persons picks up outlines and passes them on to the wearer via a wrist strap containing electrodes.

Technology is also assisting the deaf in the form of electronic hearing aids which involve implanting a tiny computer behind the ear. A microphone and a transmitter are built into a hearing device worn across the back

of the head rather like a reversed pair of spectacles. The microphone picks up the sound and conducts it by wire to the speech processor, which is worn around the midriff and looks somewhat like a flat cigarette case. The mini-computer selects sounds required in spoken language and sends coded signals via transmitter to the implanted "receiver."

However, surgery of this kind — which has already been carried out in various hospitals in the Federal Republic of Germany such as the Aachen Clinic and the Hanover Medical University — can be performed only on pa-

tients who retain intact hearing nerves despite their deafness. And they have to be well enough motivated to play an active part in treatment which, with hearing training and post-operative care, takes about one year.

The Fraunhofer Institute in Duisburg and scientists from Cologne University are currently working together on the re-development and refinement of an existing hearing aid. There is no need for incisions in the inner ear for its implantation as the electrodes are worn externally. This rules out the risk of damaging the hearing nerves.

Meet the Red Sea explorers

Red Sea Explorers by Peter Vine and Hagen Schmid, Immel Publishing Ely House, 37 Dover Street, London, pp 208.

THE Red Sea is, for most people in Saudi Arabia and especially those in the Western Province, a part of their daily lives and the greatest source of leisure activities whether it is fishing, diving or just taking the children to the beach on a Friday to paddle in the sea. Two of the people for whom the Red Sea has become almost an obsession are Peter Vine and Hagen Schmid, the authors of the latest book to be published on this expanse of water. Hagen Schmid has lived in Jeddah for the last 17 years and whether it is organising photographic exhibitions or just sitting on the beach enthralled children with stories of strange fishes and mermaids he obviously lives for the Sea. Peter Vine is a marine biologist who has travelled all over the world but always returns to the subject that has become closest to his heart.

This book is an eclectic collection of essays on the many and various people who have decided to take a closer look at the Red Sea over the last 500 years. Each chapter has a different theme but the whole becomes an in-depth study of the various facets of our local lake. Whether it is 17th century explorers looking for new

lands or 20th century fish farmers, the whole world seems fascinated by the warmest sea in the world.

Modern scientific studies began with the Arabia Felix expedition in 1762 — in fact the book is dedicated to Peder Forskaal, an eminent Swedish naturalist who travelled on this expedition and died of malaria in the mountains of Yemen. Five of the six members died during the trip, emphasising the difficulties of travelling in Arabia at that time.

Before their untimely deaths, the group had set about the task of making an accurate map of the country and investigating aspects of its geography, biology, sociology and of course its archaeology. The map eventually produced by Carsten Niebuhr was the first detailed map of the country and it was subsequently used by many cartographers who marvelled at the accuracy and detail of his work. These maps are reproduced in the book together with some early line drawings of Jeddah and the port.

The unbroken chain of explorers continues to probably the most famous man under the sea — Jacques Cousteau, who brought the mystery and magic of the oceans to a wider public via his famous television series.

In 1951 he said of the Red Sea: "It was virtually unexplored, transparent and not too far away. It had the reputation of being a nice hot bathtub full of sharks,

and it was a coral sea."

He then spent many hours each day diving in it and unlocking its treasures. He and his team had access to reefs and islands which had never previously been studied by scientists and they were constantly aware of a responsibility to observe, record and question what they found.

So enchanted with this particular sea, Cousteau came back in 1963 to establish the Conshelf 2 — an underwater living base

BOOK REVIEW

which sheltered 5 men for a month at a depth of 36 feet at Shaab Rumi reef in the Sudanese Red Sea.

During the same period Hans and Lotte Hass, the famous husband and wife underwater exploration team, were also investigating the Sudanese Red Sea and the Farasan Islands off the southwest coast of Saudi Arabia. The waters surrounding these islands are some of the richest in the entire Red Sea and in a later chapter the authors go into detail about the variety of fauna both on and around the islands. The food chain around the islands, which starts with the high level of phytoplankton, supports high population of everything from nesting sea birds to a large number of turtles.

The abundance of fish here and in other parts of the Red Sea has, for centuries led men and their boats to the waters to become fishermen. In recent years, however, the numbers of fish caught has varied and the number of people wanting to become fishermen has declined. The book explains how the Saudi authorities have taken steps to ensure that the area is not overfished and to start fish-farming on a commercial basis. With assistance from the British Fisheries Authority they have been modernising the fishing fleet and drawing up long-term plans for the management and development of the Red Sea as a food resource.

One of the authors has been involved in this and was responsible for bringing tilapia or (as it is known in Egypt, boliti) to the coasts of Saudi Arabia where it is farmed in special floating cages moored in sheltered bays. It has subsequently become a firm favourite with local fish-eaters and has the great advantage that it is easy to breed in captivity and reaches market size in only six months.

The book has excellent colour photographs and a superb collection of line drawings to illustrate the different themes. There are reproductions of many of the older maps of the Red Sea and some detailed information about everybody's favourite fear — sharks — Arab News.

French outraged over human guinea pigs

By Elaine Ganley
Associated Press

PARIS — Health Minister Michele Barzach has suspended the head of a regional hospital anesthesiology service and ordered an investigation to determine whether the doctor used a comatose patient as a human guinea pig.

Reports of the experiment, disclosed Tuesday night in a criminal trial in the western city of Poitiers, stunned the French medical community. Reactions of horror and outrage were spread across the front pages of French newspapers.

Jean Lassner, a professor of medicine, testified that a doctor he did not identify had placed a deeply comatose patient, considered legally dead, on a sabotaged resuscitation system. He said the experiment was conducted to see if the effects were the same as in the case on trial, in which a young woman died, possibly from medical sabotage.

Lassner was testifying at the trial of three doctors charged in connection with the 1984 death of Nicole Berneron following her operation for a benign tumor at Jean Bernard Hospital in Poitiers.

Berneron, 33, mother of two children, apparently received nitrous oxide, potentially toxic, instead of oxygen immediately after the operation and died of asphyxiation. An investigation showed that the tubes had been switched.

Lassner said the comatose patient survived the experiment, which was videotaped. He said the doctor who carried out the experiment "did so on his own, for the trial."

French newspapers Wednesday recalled a 1983 case in which Dr. Alain Milhaud was condemned by the medical community after he admitted to experimenting on a 20-year-old comatose man in a prolonged vegetative state.

Dr. Barzach, speaking at a news conference, ordered

Milhaud suspended as head of the anesthesiology service at the regional hospital centre of Amiens, in northern France.

Investigation

She also asked the state prosecutor to investigate to find out who carried out the recent experiment, stressing that her action against Milhaud should not prejudice the inquiry.

The minister said she was "indignant and revolted that in this country one can carry out experiments on humans, obviously without their consent, given their state."

News of the experiment dominated courtroom proceedings Wednesday. One witness, Dr. Pierre Huguenard of Henri Mondor Hospital, said it was "absolutely abominable."

"It is morally unacceptable, legally forbidden, scientifically worthless and economically scandalous," he told the court.

Speculation about the mystery doctor has centered on Milhaud,

who has refused all comment.

During the 1985 controversy, Milhaud called patients in a prolonged, chronic vegetative state "almost perfect human models, who constitute intermediaries between animal and man."

In the 1985 experiment, he injected a liter of blood into the patient's bone marrow at two minute intervals in an effort to show this was a viable treatment for patients in shock. The man, comatose for three years, died within months but no link between the experiment and the death was established.

Ruling against comparison

Louis Rene, President of the National Council of the Order of Doctors, noted in a statement Tuesday night that in 1986 his group and the National Consultative Committee on Ethics ruled against comparing "these sick with almost perfect human models," saying they should have "all the more respect."

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Goodbye Calgary, Alberta, hello Albertville, France

15th Winter Olympics close with pageantry on ice and lavish fame

CALGARY (AP) — The 15th Winter Olympics, beset by fierce winds and fallen favourites, closed Sunday night with a rousing burst of fire, blazes of light and pageantry on ice.

Three hours after the last medals were awarded, the curtain closed on the 10-day affair, the longest and most lavish in the history of the Winter Games.

More than 60,000 people packed McMahon stadium a chilly, clear and calm night to bid farewell to the athletes.

"To the athletes, you have captured our hearts and filled them with memories. You have broken world records. Some of you established personal bests," said Frank King, president of the Calgary Organising Committee.

"Some of you have even soared like an eagle," said King, referring to Britain's first ski jumper, Eddie "The Eagle" Edwards, a last-place finisher with a champion's glow. The crowd cheered wildly and chanted "Eddie, Eddie, Eddie."

Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), said that despite the unpredictable Canadian winds which brought springlike weather, Calgary had managed to produce "the best organization of the Olympic Winter Games ever."

Samaranch declared the 15th Winter Games closed. The crowd roared.

When the "Olympic" gas line that lit the torch was cut off and the brilliant orange flame quickly died.

The 90-minute spectacle was a break from the long tradition of quiet Winter Olympic closings, usually held in an ice arena in the afternoon.

The stadium sparkled brilliantly with the flames from miniature Olympic torches given to each person. Banners reading "Until We Meet Again" in eight languages draped the top of the stands.

A tradition dictated, Mayor Ralph Klein of Calgary passed the flag of the 1992 Oslo games to

MEDAL TABLE

CALGARY (AP) — Final medal totals of the 1988 Winter Olympics:

Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
The Soviet Union	11	9	9	29
East Germany	9	10	6	25
Switzerland	5	5	5	15
Austria	3	5	5	13
West Germany	2	4	4	10
Finland	4	1	2	7
The Netherlands	3	2	2	7
Sweden	4	0	1	5
The United States	2	1	1	4
Italy	2	1	1	4
Norway	0	3	3	6
Canada	0	2	2	4
Yugoslavia	0	2	1	3
Czechoslovakia	1	1	1	3
France	1	0	1	2
Japan	0	0	1	1
Liechtenstein	0	0	1	1



A frustrated Marc Habscheid of Canada lands a hard right to Soviet goaltender Sergei Mylnikov, with Alexander Molynay at left, during the Soviet-Canadian ice hockey match.

Mayor A. Dujol of Albertville, host of the 1992 Winter Olympics.

In the end, the fans packing McMahon stadium did not shout for Alberto Tomba, Katarina Witt or any of the other superstars of the XV Winter Games. The chant was: "Eddie, Eddie."

In response, Eddie sprang up in the stands and waved to the legion of fans he had won instead of medals.

While Edwards and Britain came away without Olympic hon-

ours, the Soviet Union and East Germany dominated the games, and the two East bloc sport giants together came away with 54 of the 138 medals awarded in 10 events.

Among the Olympians who made their marks through performance here were:

— Matti Nykanen, the Flying Finn, who won three gold medals in ski jumping, two more than any jumper had ever won at one games.

— Raisa Smetanina, who won two cross-country medals for the Soviets, giving her nine spanning four games and tying her with Sixten Jernberg of Sweden for most medals ever by a Winter Olympic athlete.

— Vreni Schneider of Switzerland, who became the fifth woman to win two Alpine gold medals and the first since Hanni Wenzel of Liechtenstein in 1980.

— Karin Kania of East Germany, whose three medals here gave her a record eight speed-skating medals spanning three Olympics.

— Gunde Svan of Sweden,

winner of four medals in 1984, who overcame a weak start in the opening cross-country events to win golds in the final two Nordic races.

— Frank-Peter Roetsch of East Germany, who won double gold and became the first Italian Alpine skier to win two golds at one Olympics; and

— Katarina Witt of East Germany, the first woman figure skater since Sonja Henie to successfully defend her Olympic title.

Dutch speed skater Yvonne van Gennip went out with a world-beating burst of power for her third gold Sunday.

Van Gennip, who joined the "Flying Finn" in the ranks of triple gold medalists, overpowered the East German stars again in a grueling distance race and cracked her second world record.

The Swiss, disappointed in their effort to dominate the Alpine skiing here, finished with a flourish, winning the four-man bobsled by 7-100ths of a second and triumphing in the Nordic combined event.

Multiple medal winners

CALGARY (AP) — Multiple medal winners in the Winter Olympics after Sunday's events:

Women

Yvonne van Gennip (The Netherlands): speed skating, 3 gold.

Tamara Tikhonova (The Soviet Union): cross country skiing, 2 gold, 1 silver.

Marjo Matikainen (Finland): cross country skiing, 1 gold, 2 bronze.

Andrea Ehrig (East Germany): speed skating, 2 silver, 1 bronze.

Karin Kania (East Germany): speed skating, 2 silver, 1 bronze.

Vreni Schneider (Switzerland): Alpine skiing, 2 gold.

Christa Rothenburger (East Germany): speed skating, 1 gold, 1 silver.

Annissa Reztsova (the Soviet Union): cross country skiing, 1 gold, 1 silver.

Bonnie Blair (the United States): speed skating, 1 gold, 1 bronze.

Vida Ventsene (the Soviet Union): cross country skiing, 1 gold, 1 bronze.

Brigitte Oertli (Switzerland): Alpine skiing, 2 silver.

Andrea Ehrig (East Germany): speed skating, 1 silver, 1 bronze.

Raisa Smetanina (the Soviet Union): cross country skiing, 1 silver, 1 bronze.

Christa Kinshofer-Guethlein (West Germany): Alpine skiing, 1 silver, 1 bronze.

Karen Percy (Canada): Alpine skiing, 2 bronze.

Gabi Zange (East Germany): speed skating, 2 bronze.

Maria Walliser (Switzerland): Alpine skiing, 2 bronze.

Men

Matti Nykanen (Finland): ski jumping, 3 gold.

Valery Medvedev (the Soviet Union): biathlon, 1 gold, 2 silver.

Vladimir Smirnov (the Soviet Union): cross country skiing, 2 silver, 1 bronze.

Alberto Tomba (Italy): Alpine skiing, 2 gold.

Gunde Svan (Sweden): cross country skiing, 2 gold.

Tomas Gustafson (Sweden): speed skating, 2 gold.

Frank-Peter Roetsch (East Germany): biathlon, 2 gold.

Hubert Strolz (Austria): Alpine skiing, 1 gold, 1 silver.

Hippolyt Kempf (Switzerland): Nordic combined, 1 gold, 1 silver.

Jens-Uwe Mey (East Germany): speed skating, 1 gold, 1 silver.

Mikhail Deviatarov (the Soviet Union): cross country skiing, 1 gold, 1 silver.

Alexei Prokhorov (the Soviet Union): cross country skiing, 1 gold, 1 silver.

Pirmin Zurbriggen (Switzerland): Alpine skiing, 1 gold, 1 bronze.

Ianais Kipouris (the Soviet Union): Bobsled, 1 gold, 1 bronze.

Vladimir Kozlov (the Soviet Union): bobsled, 1 gold, 1 bronze.

Frank Piccard (France): Alpine skiing, 1 gold, 1 bronze.

Sergei Chepikov (the Soviet Union): biathlon, 1 gold, 1 bronze.

Wolfgang Hoppe (East Germany): bobsled, 2 silver.

Bogdan Musiol (East Germany): bobsled, 2 silver.

Klaus Sulzenbacher (Austria): Nordic combined, 1 silver, 1 bronze.

Michael Hadschieff (Austria): speed skating, 1 silver, 1 bronze.

Leo Visser (The Netherlands): speed skating, 1 silver, 1 bronze.

Erik Johnsen (Norway): ski jumping, 1 silver, 1 bronze.

Matjaz Debelak (Yugoslavia): ski jumping, 1 silver, 1 bronze.

Johann Passler (Italy): biathlon, 2 bronze.

Finns shock Soviets in hockey

CALGARY (AP) — Sweden put the pressure on, and Finland responded by doing what no other Olympic hockey team has been able to do since 1980: beat the mighty Soviet Union.

Three hours after Sweden defeated West Germany 3-2 Sunday, Erkki Lehtonen's power-play goal with 1:40 to play gave Finland a 2-1 victory over the gold medalist Soviets and the silver medal — its first medal since Finland began playing Olympic hockey in 1952.

The Finns had needed to at least tie the Soviets to take the silver away from Sweden, which had to rally from a two-goal deficit to defeat West Germany and capture its third straight bronze. That result relegated Canada to a fourth-place finish on its home ice.

"This was our first victory over the Soviets in either world championship or Olympic play and our first medal," Finnish assistant coach Hannu Jortikka said. "It's a great day in Finnish hockey."

After stopping the Soviets, Finnish players carried coach Pentti Matikainen on to the ice in celebration.

Said Matikainen: "It creates hockey history."

However, Soviet players didn't seem to upset as they received their gold medals after the game.

After all, the Soviets had already proven their point — that they are the best in the world — when they defeated Sweden Friday, wrapping up their second straight gold and seventh in nine Olympics.

Hardest game

"This was the hardest game of the entire Olympics for us. We had to fight with our own mood," Soviet assistant coach Igor Dmitriyev said. "Given our success in previous games ... bringing this team together for this particular tournament, we put everything into the games we won. There simply wasn't enough energy for today's game."

Finland could have made Sunday's game for the gold if it had beaten Czechoslovakia.

"But Dmitriyev said: 'If the issue was to be decided today, you would have seen a different Soviet team on the ice.'"

The Soviet Union has lost only five Olympic games — against 53 victories and two ties — since it began participating in 1956. Sunday's defeat snapped a 15-game winning streak dating back to the 1980 "miracle on ice" loss to the United States.

In dropping the Soviets' record to 7-1 and improving its own to 5-2-1 in this tournament, Finland got a 31-save performance from the forgotten Finn, goalie Jukka Tammi.

Navratilova keeps up her winning streak

FAIRFAX (AP) — Martina Navratilova is on a hot streak that has her thinking about a return to the good old days when she was number one.

Navratilova beat Pam Shriver for the 23rd straight time Sunday, 6-0, 6-2, to win her third tournament in as many weeks and the top prize in the \$300,000 Virginia Slims of Washington.

"I don't think I've ever won three finals in a row this decisively, even in my heyday," said Navratilova, who won at Dallas two weeks ago and last week in California. "Right now I'm putting it all together when it matters."

Navratilova, who has slipped to number two behind Steffi Graf after a five-year reign at the top, was asked if she was headed towards another heyday.

NBA STANDINGS

NEW YORK (R) — Standings of National Basketball Association (NBA) teams after Sunday's games:

Eastern Conference				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Boston Celtics	39	17	.696	—
New York Knicks	35	20	.636	16
Philadelphia 76ers	22	32	.407	16
Washington Bullets	21	32	.396	16½
New Jersey Nets	12	42	.222	26
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Detroit Pistons	35	18	.660	—
Atlanta Hawks	35	20	.636	1
Chicago Bulls	31	24	.564	5
Milwaukee Bucks	29	24	.547	6
Indiana Pacers	29	25	.537	6½
Cleveland Cavaliers	28	28	.500	8½
Western Conference				
Midwest Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Dallas Mavericks	37	17	.685	—
Denver Nuggets	33	20	.623	3½
Houston Rockets	32	21	.604	4½
Utah Jazz	27	26	.509	9½
San Antonio Spurs	21	31	.404	15
Sacramento Kings	16	38	.296	21
Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Los Angeles Lakers	45	9	.833	—
Portland Trail Blazers	33	21	.611	12
Seattle SuperSonics	29	27	.518	17
Phoenix Suns	17	37	.315	28
Golden State Warriors	14	38	.269	30
Los Angeles Clippers	12	40	.231	32

NHL STANDINGS

(ICE HOCKEY)

NEW YORK (R) — Standings of National Hockey League (NHL) teams after Sunday's games:

Wales Conference						
Patrick Division						
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia Flyers	33	22	7	73	229	220
New York Islanders	30	24	9	69	245	215
Washington Capitals	31	26	6	68	215	188
New Jersey Devils	28	32	5	61	226	246
New York Rangers	26	29	8	60	237	228
Pittsburgh Penguins	25	30	9	59	241	259
Adams Division						
Montreal Canadiens	35	20	10	80	240	203
Boston Bruins	37	22	5	79	249	200
Buffalo Sabres	29	26	9	67	225	241
Hartford Whalers	26	30	7	59	192	210
Quebec Nordiques	26	32	4	56	221	238
Campbell Conference						
Norris Division						
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit Red Wings	31	24	8	70	255	219
St. Louis Blues	29	29	5	63	220	220
Chicago Black Hawks	26	31	7	59	226	257
Toronto Maple Leafs	19	36	10	48	230	272
Minnesota North Stars	17	38	9	43	197	271
Smythe Division						
Calgary Flames	37	20	7	81	302	242
Edmonton Oilers	35	21	8	78	289	228
Winnipeg Jets	28	27	9	65	237	241
Los Angeles Kings	25	37	5	55	251	295
Vancouver Canucks	21	38	7	49	225	259

Mayotte retains title

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Tim Mayotte of the United States won his second straight U.S. Pro Indoor tournament in Philadelphia Sunday with a 4-6, 6-2, 6-2, 6-3 victory over 16th-seeded John Fitzgerald.

Mayotte, who was seeded second in the \$600,000 tournament, broke Fitzgerald's service three times in the fourth set to win his 15th straight match to take home the \$123,800 first prize. The match ended on the third match point, when Fitzgerald double faulted.

Fitzgerald, who held number one seed Ivan Lendl in third round, earned \$61,900 to put him over the \$1-million mark for his career.

In previous meetings, Mayotte had beaten Fitzgerald twice.

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Opposition riots break out in Senegalese capital

Diouf leads in polls, declares emergency

By Larry James
The Associated Press

DAKAR, Senegal — President Abdou Diouf declared a state of emergency in the capital region Monday after riots broke out following reports that Diouf was winning a new five-year term with 77 per cent of the vote.

A broadcast on national radio said the declaration was "in response to grave troubles this morning" and said all public meetings were banned and would be broken up.

Riot police fought running battles with students in the northern part of the capital, and rock-throwing students destroyed several buses, witnesses said. Elsewhere, police used tear gas and rubber truncheons to break up groups of opposition partisans.

The radio said Diouf, who won 83.5 per cent of the vote in the 1983 election, received 77 per cent in early returns. It said the leading opposition candidate, Abdoulaye Wade of the Senegalese Democratic Party, was winning 21 per cent. Two other candidates split the rest.

Opposition candidates charged during Sunday's voting that Diouf's Socialist Party was handing out fraudulent voting cards to its supporters.

Reporters saw riot police break

up a meeting of the opposition Senegalese Democratic Party (PDS) outside the party headquarters Monday morning. An Associated Press photographer was arrested and his camera and film confiscated.

The PDS earlier had threatened demonstrations if the government announced election returns before they had been certified by the supreme court, which hears challenges to results.

Armoured personnel carriers rigged with machine guns blocked off major entrance to the neighbourhood where the PDS rally was held and to the university of Dakar, where a confrontation in the early morning hours led to clashes and at least a dozen arrests.

Police moved in to break up a group of students who had gathered in the residential neighbourhood, witnesses said. Police broke into the buildings, knocking down doors and throwing tear gas grenades into the rooms.

A group of Moroccan students, some with their heads shaved,

told reporters they had been hauled from their beds by police, dragged outside on the lawn and beaten with rubber truncheons.

Those who were singled out for beatings also had their heads shaved by police, students said.

Though the election campaign had been marred by battles between riot police and opposition supporters, the only reported trouble on election day was in the northern town of Kebemer. A Radio France International reporter said police fired on a group of young PDS supporters who were throwing rocks at them.

The Kebemer Hospital said four people were treated and released and two others were hospitalised after surgery. No other details were available.

Babacar Niang, presidential candidate of the populist People's Liberation Party, joined the PDS in accusing Diouf's party of vote fraud. Niang said polling stations in the former colonial capital of St. Louis had been broken into Saturday and voting cards taken. He said the cards were given to Diouf supporters.

Diouf had accused the opposition parties of subversion and threatened action against them. In a statement after voting Sunday, Diouf said he still supported multiparty democracy but added: "We need to put some safeguards in place."

Japan seeks defence buildup

TOKYO (R) — The Japanese military wants a major army buildup in the next decade to counter any threat from the Soviet Union, the Yomiuri Shimbun said Monday.

The newspaper said a secret defence agency (ministry) study called for Japan to develop the capacity to fend off a Soviet attack on the northernmost island of Hokkaido without immediate help from the United States.

A spokesman for the defence agency declined to comment on the usually well-informed Yomiuri's report.

Control of the La Perouse Straits between the Soviet island of Sakhalin and Hokkaido is crucial if the Soviet Pacific fleet is to break out from its home port at Vladivostok in time of war, defence analysts said.

Japan's current five-year defence programme, lasting to 1990, concentrates on acquiring a fleet of advanced planes and warships, largely at the expense of the 160,000-strong army.

To accomplish that, the Japanese government in 1986 scrapped a 10-year-old rule limiting defence spending to one per cent of Gross National Product.



Change of guard... A student with the South American Centre in Seoul in a protest last Korean flag on her chest stands behind a week against the transfer of power to Roh smashed window in the student-occupied Tae-Woo.

Azerbaijan chief calls for calm

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The Communist Party chief of the Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan appealed for calm in a speech to Armenian protesters Monday, according to a spokeswoman for local television.

The spokeswoman said Kiyamran Bagirov made the speech in Stepanakert, capital of the Nagorno-Karabakh region hit by a wave of Armenian protests.

Protests in Nagorno-Karabakh are continuing on a reduced scale, she said in a telephone call from the Azerbaijan capital Baku.

"There are some meetings but they are subsiding."

Hundreds of thousands of people have also been demonstrating in Yerevan, capital of the neighbouring Soviet Republic of Armenia, demanding the return of Nagorno-Karabakh to Armenian rule.

Mountainous Nagorno-Karabakh, where 75 per cent of the population are Christian Armenians, has been ruled by predominantly Muslim Azerbaijan since 1923.

Armenia and Azerbaijan are in the southern part of the Soviet Union bordering Iran.

The Yerevan rallies have now been suspended for a month to allow Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev time to consider the issue.

Noriega on firm ground in Panama challenge

PANAMA CITY (R) — Panama's opposition leaders say their hopes of ousting General Manuel Antonio Noriega as military strongman are fading.

Leaders of the opposition civic crusade toned down their once-confident predictions that Noriega's resignation is imminent and backed away from predictions the nation would be paralysed Monday by a strike against him.

Meanwhile, fired President Eric Arturo Delvalle stayed in hiding, saying he was still in command. But his domestic support crumbled Sunday as his own party endorsed his dismissal by the legislative assembly Friday, hours after he tried to sack Noriega.

The civic crusade called an

indefinite national strike late Friday, saying the country would be "absolutely paralysed" from Monday, except for passage of ships through the Panama Canal. But one of the leaders, Roberto Branes, said Sunday he would count the strike a success if 40 per cent of commerce was halted.

"I'm not attaching too much importance to this strike," said another leader, Eduardo Vallarino. "No dictatorial regime is going to give up because of a strike."

Noriega has weathered street protests, mounting economic disruption, indictments in U.S. courts that he accepted \$4.6 million in bribes from drug traffickers and Delvalle's attempt to sack him.

Children think earth is flat

WASHINGTON (AP) — Never mind Italian explorer Christopher Columbus. Never mind the globes in classrooms everywhere. Never mind those pictures from space of earth as a big blue marble.

When you ask American children in the early elementary grades what they really think, most believe what they eyes tell them: the earth is flat.

That, at least, is what Alan Lightman, a Harvard physicist, and astronomy teacher Philip Sadler say.

The two, writing in "science and children" magazine, suggest that educators are living in a dream world if they assume young children understand the

earth is round. "Nearly 500 years ago, Columbus proved that the earth was round. Today's students still don't believe it," they write in the February issue of the science teachers' journal.

They cite several studies done in the United States, Israel and Nepal in the 1970s and early 1980s in which young schoolchildren consistently turned out to be flat-earthists.

"One of the first scientific facts we announce to our children is that the earth is round. That flat, flat ground we walk on, ride on and play on, stretching endless kilometres in perfect and reliable flatness, actually wraps around on itself to form a giant ball."

Man gets life for seducing women

PEKING (R) — A Chinese factory worker was Monday sentenced to life imprisonment for posing as the son of a high official and seducing 16 women, the Peking Evening News reported. It said Liu Deji, 40, who worked in a factory making coal-mining equipment, had since May, 1984, used false documents to pose as an important official's son, seducing 16 women and behaving indecently to countless others. He committed these offences in a park, a hospital, the workers cultural palace and other public places in Peking, the newspaper said. He was arrested by police in June last year and has since confessed his guilt, the paper added. Children of high officials are a privileged class in China and are popularly known as "the party of the prices."

Madonna fails Italian believers

PESCARA, Italy (AP) — More than 10,000 people crowded a hillside in this Adriatic coastal city Sunday to witness an apparition that never appeared, and some went away with sore eyes. People came from all parts of Italy to gather at the foot of a 5-metre-tall cross and stare into the sun for what had been billed as an apparition of the Madonna, the Virgin Mary. But they stared in vain, and according to state-run Rai television, many complained that the sun had hurt their eyes. A local 33-year-old woman, Maria Fioriti, had claimed that she had seen a vision of the Madonna each week and invited Italians to join her Sunday to see for themselves. The claim received wide publicity in the Italian press.

Men beware, leap year women will get you

LONDON (R) — Women exercising their traditional right to propose marriage to the man of their dreams on leap year's day stand an excellent chance to succeed — 92 per cent can count on a "yes," a Gallup poll shows. There is even more good news for those choosing Monday, Feb. 29, to put their mouth where their heart is, the Daily Telegraph reported. Half those rejected will later be proposed to by the man. But only 12 per cent of the women interviewed by Gallup said they would seriously consider popping the question. According to a British expert, many famous women prove the fairer sex do not need the leap year excuse anyway.

Smog chokes Mexicans

MEXICO CITY (R) — Mexico City has been choking through some of the thickest smog on record, with the capital shrouded in a blanket of gray since last Thursday. Thursday was the smoggiest day this year and one of the worst ever, according to environmentalists. In parts of the city the official air quality index registered 298 on a scale of 500 — two points short of the "dangerous" level.

Lonely heart, with toilet, stirs Chinese women

PEKING (R) — Hundreds of Shanghai women, including actresses, doctors and communist party officials, have replied to an ad for a wife placed by a man boasting income of \$2,700 a year and a flat with a toilet. "Man, 34, factory director of a township enterprise, annual income over 10,000 yuan (\$2,700), has a 400-square-metre house in Nanjing and a 60-square-metre private flat with kitchen and toilet in Shanghai," read the advertisement in the city's evening newspaper. "Divorced, no family. Seeking a Shanghai woman, 24 to 30, for marriage. Must be enterprising, sociable, beautiful and kind, able to act as secretary, and have at least senior middle school education," it added. The Beijing Review, a weekly magazine, said the newspaper received 400 responses in three days from workers, soldiers, doctors, communist party cadres, teachers, technicians and even middle school students. It said 58 had university education.

Tutu briefly held in S. Africa protest

CAPE TOWN (R) — Black Archbishop Desmond Tutu, a winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, and scores of South African church leaders were briefly detained by police during a protest march Monday.

They were bundled into police cars and taken to Cape Town's Caledon Square police headquarters for questioning after attempting to march to parliament with a petition protesting against a crackdown on black anti-apartheid groups.

After half an hour, Tutu, head of the Anglican Church in Southern Africa, and about 20 other

detained churchmen arrived back at Saint George's Cathedral, where the march had begun.

"We have shown it is still possible to take direct, non-violent action and not just speak about it," Tutu told reporters after his release.

Police were investigating whether the churchmen, of all denominations and races, had contravened security laws by staging an unauthorised march, Tutu said.

More than 100 churchmen and supporters were detained as they tried to make the short walk from

the cathedral to parliament. Tutu, the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize winner, was in the front row, his purple robes flowing in the breeze.

Arms linked alongside him were the Reverend Allan Boesak, President of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, Frank Chikane, General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches and Roman Catholic Archbishop Stephen Naidoo.

Fifty metres from the cathedral they were stopped by blue-shirted riot police and bundled into cars after refusing an order to dis-

perse. Police used water cannon against other demonstrators who refused to leave.

"What happened today is quite historic," Boesak told Reuters after his release. "Never before has this large a number of church leaders come together for an act of civil disobedience."

"It's an act I am prepared to repeat quite often," Boesak said. "The church has decided it must stand up for what is right. We have told the government we are not going to accept what is happening in this country."

Mitterrand opposed to arms upgrading

PARIS (R) — President Francois Mitterrand said Monday Europe should try to balance East-West conventional forces rather than upgrade short-range nuclear arms at a time when the superpowers are inching towards disarmament.

His comments, in interviews released 48 hours before he attends a two-day NATO summit in Brussels, are the second time the French leader has publicly opposed some of his allies by objecting to modernising short-range nuclear weapons.

"It is a matter of urgency for the security of Europe to negotiate a balance of conventional forces," Mitterrand said.

Asked by the weekly U.S. News and World Report whether the accord should be placed instead on the modernisation of

short-range nuclear weapons, Mitterrand replied: "no."

"When, for the first time since World War II, the two blocs have started up a process of disarmament, it would be paradoxical and inappropriate to over-arm. Let us seek a balance at the lowest possible level," he added.

The signing of a superpower treaty banning medium-range nuclear missiles (INF) has caused months of confusion between Washington and its 15 NATO allies on nuclear arms control, military strategy and the U.S. commitment to European defence.

Mitterrand, the first French head of state to attend a major North Atlantic Treaty Organisation meeting in more than 20 years, last week objected to a NATO programme to modernise

short-range nuclear weapons in Europe.

Britain and the United States favour upgrading the weapons, largely based in West Germany and with a range below 500 kilometres.

West Germany, which is on NATO's front line and is tightening its defence links with France, sees itself as being uniquely exposed to a threat from such weapons.

Mitterrand said in a separate, almost identical interview with

the French daily Ouest-France that he believed Washington and Bonn had agreed not to raise the issue at the summit "in antagonistic terms."

"West Germany does not enjoy being crammed with nuclear devices or being the likely primary target of a close-range nuclear war. One can and one must understand this," he said.

"But the Germans also must understand that their allies are within range of strategic nuclear arms. Everything is linked."

Dukakis promises surprise; Jackson pulls one

By Evans Witt
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis has another victory in the northeast and says he will "surprise some people in the south" on Super Tuesday.

Meanwhile, the Republican presidential hopefuls are gearing up for next week's big southern test by hitting each other on taxes and trade.

It was a son of the south, Jesse Jackson, who pulled the weekend's surprise, finishing a strong second to Dukakis in the Maine Democratic caucuses Sunday. Vice President George Bush claimed the victory on the Republican side.

With Super Tuesday only a week away, Republican Jack Kemp sought to pump up his fading campaign with direct attacks on Bush and Senate Republican leader Bob Dole, saying they will not be true to President Ronald Reagan's legacy.

"They sound alike. They talk alike. They've supported every single tax increase over the last eight years," Kemp said in a tony Republican debate Sunday in Atlanta. "If they're nominated, the Reagan revolution is over, gone, dead."

Harsh rhetoric did not dim the good news from Maine, in the far northeast corner of the country, for Bush and Dukakis.

Bush's campaign claimed vic-

tory in the Republican caucuses Sunday. With no official count available, his campaign gave out figures saying he more than doubled his rivals' totals in the city and town meetings.

On the Democratic side, Dukakis won the Maine caucuses easily, relying on a strong organisation and his neighbourly ties. He took better than 40 per cent of the delegates to the state convention and at least 10 national convention delegates.

"Today's victory gives our national campaign another push towards success on Super Tuesday," Dukakis said. Earlier, he told a crowd in Maryland — where he hopes to do well on March 8: "You're an important Super Tuesday state... I think we're going to surprise some people in the south."

Dukakis' win was expected. Jackson's strong second-place showing was not.

The black civil rights leader campaigned relatively little in the state, but showed strength in many parts of the state to win nearly a third of the vote. A block of uncommitted delegates was in third place with the rest of the Democrats trailing.

Both Dukakis and Bush hoped to put another victory in their column Tuesday, when the non-binding Vermont primaries are scheduled.

The Democratic candidates gather for another pre-March 8 debate Monday night in Wil-

liamsburg, Virginia, before the members of the Democratic Leadership Council. DLC members put together the idea of a southern regional primary and then pushed state legislatures across the region to move their primaries to the same early March date.

The Republican debate Sunday in Atlanta may be their last full-scale confrontation before Super Tuesday.

Bush, who is skipping the League of Women Voters' debate next Sunday in Nashville, told his three rivals that intra-party sniping is not useful.

"There's no point in Republicans going around criticising each other or certainly criticising the president of the United States. What we want to do is go after the people you had here yesterday," Bush said, referring to the Democratic candidates who debated in the same hall Saturday.

"That's easy. That's slow-motion, slow targets to go for."

Kemp attacked hardest during the debate sponsored by the Atlanta newspapers, accusing his opponents of sounding like Democratic hopeful Richard Gephardt on trade.

"Pat Robertson and Bob Dole sound like Dick Gephardt to me on trade, and George Bush and Bob Dole say the budget deficit is public enemy No. 1. I want to say the Soviet Union is public enemy No. 1. Kemp said.



Jesse Jackson's ability to attract white voters and a greater political maturity could leave him picking the Democratic candidacy.

Dole attacked Bush for the Reagan administration's decision to trade arms for hostages in the Iran-contra affair.

"We never should trade arms for hostages... we shouldn't do those things," Dole said, holding up a report on terrorism that was written by a commission Bush headed.

Bush said "mistakes were made" in the Iran-contra affair and has maintained throughout

the affair that he did not know the arrangement was an arms-for-hostage deal.

Bush touted his experience and his role standing up for Reagan through the first seven years of the administration. Dole took Bush's words and turned them to his own purposes.

"I've been there — not standing by the president, but carrying the ball for the president," Dole said.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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THE SIMPLE LIFE

North-South vulnerable, West deals.

NORTH
♠ 5 2
♥ Q 5 4 3
♦ 7 6
♣ 6 4 3

EAST
♠ 4
♥ J 9 8 7
♦ J 9 2
♣ J 8 5

WEST
♠ 4
♥ J 9 2
♦ J 8 5
♣ Q J 10 8 7 5

EAST
♠ J 9 8 7
♥ J 10 8
♦ J 9 2
♣ J 8 5

SOUTH
♠ A K Q 10 3
♥ A 7
♦ A K Q 2
♣ A K

THE BIDDING:
West North East South
3 ♠ Pass Pass Dbl
Pass 3 ♠ 4 C
Pass 4 ♠ Pass 5 S
Pass 6 ♠ Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠. When you are dealt a bad hand, it is often easier to complain than to value it realistically. While South might get the credit for his fine play in making the slam, we feel the kudos really belong to North for bidding it in the first place.

South showed a tremendously powerful hand on the given sequence. Since North had shown nothing other than length in hearts, South's takeout double and cue-bid prior to his jump to five spades vir-

tually guaranteed a secondary diamond suit as well, and the ability to take 11 tricks on his own. North decided his three trumps and ruffing value in diamonds just made his hand worth the trick South was looking for.

West led the top of his club sequence. Matters looked easy until West showed out on the second trump. A brief study of the position revealed only one possibility: declarer, saddled with a sure heart loser, had to reduce his trumps to the same length as East's, and then be able to give up the lead when both declarer and East were down to nothing but two trumps each. Once the position had been visualized, the execution was simple indeed.

Since East would have to hold four diamonds and two clubs, declarer cashed the king of clubs and his high diamonds. Then he ruffed his diamond loser on the table. When he lost a club, it would not help East to ruff, so he discarded a heart and declarer trumped. The rest was easy.

Declarer cashed the ace of hearts and exited with his low heart, not caring who won the trick. If East had the monarch, he would have to lead a trump at trick 11, and the finesse was marked. If West won, East's trumps would be caught in a coup. Either way, the slam was home.